

PCT

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION  
International Bureau



IN SUBSCRIBER  
HOME

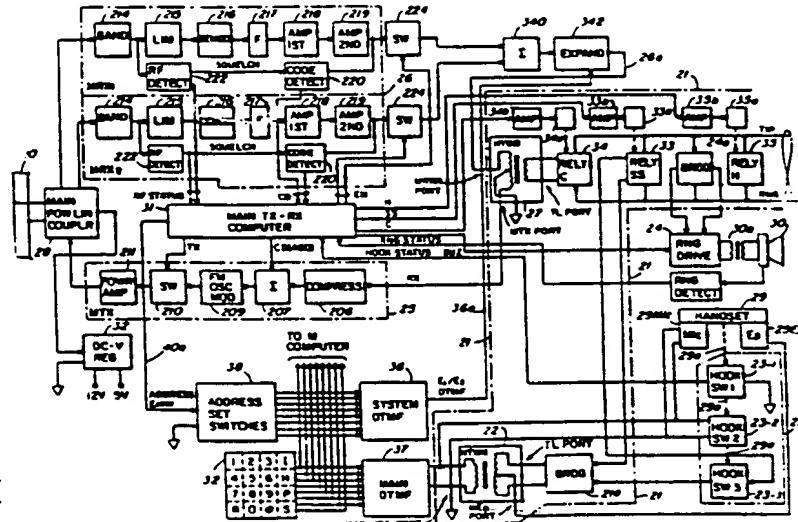
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 3 :	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 84/01481
H04M 1/72; H04B 3/54		(43) International Publication Date: 12 April 1984 (12.04.84)
(21) International Application Number:	PCT/US83/01518	
(22) International Filing Date:	29 September 1983 (29.09.83)	
(31) Priority Application Numbers:	430,762 430,851 431,400 445,499	
(32) Priority Dates:	30 September 1982 (30.09.82) 30 September 1982 (30.09.82) 30 September 1982 (30.09.82) 30 November 1982 (30.11.82)	
(33) Priority Country:	US	
(71) Applicant:	ASTECH, INC. [US/US]; 20 North Road, Bedford, MA 01730 (US).	
(72) Inventors:	BROWN, William, M. ; 122 Newtown Road, Acton, MA 01720 (US). LINDQUIST, James, R. ; 209 Main Street, Rowley, MA 01669 (US).	
(74) Agents:	REYNOLDS, Leo, R. et al.; Hamilton, Brook, Smith and Reynolds, Two Militia Drive, Lexington, MA 02173 (US).	
(81) Designated States:	AT, AT (European patent), AU, BE (European patent), BR, CH, CH (European patent), DE, DE (European patent), DK, FR (European patent), GB, GB (European patent), JP, NL, NL (European patent), SE, SE (European patent).	
<b>Published</b> <i>With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>		

(54) Title: TELEPHONE EXTENSION SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

In a carrier telephone extension system for transmitting electrical signals between the telephone line (1) (Fig. 4) and one or more extension telephones (12) and (14) over the AC electric power line (10) available at a telephone subscriber's premise or other transmission line, that includes a main station (316) (Fig. 3) for processing signals between the subscriber's telephone line (1) and power lines (202) (Fig. 1), (10) (Fig. 5), (301) (Fig. 3) and one or more extension telephones (12, 17) of the system that plug into the power line, means (303) (Fig. 3) for encoding and decoding the signals that are transmitted over the power line between the main station (316) (Fig. 3) and extension telephones (204) (Fig. 3) of the system as an aid to eliminating interference, or signals originating in other power line or transmission line carrier systems that have access to the same power line main and inhibiting eavesdropping. Thus, any of the extension phones of the system can be used at any location at the subscriber's premises where there is access to the power line or transmission line and interfering signals and eavesdropping are avoided. All of the extension telephones can place calls to the telephone line, answer calls from the telephone line and conference together in full duplex communication. Also, means are provided at the extension telephones for initiating a telephone line hold signal that is transmitted over the power line to the main station where the hold signal is detected and initiates connecting a hold impedance across the telephone line. Further means are provided for two or more of the system telephones to communicate without going on the telephone line (Intercom), even while another system telephone is engaged in an outside telephone call and means are further provided for all telephones of the system to conference in Intercom.



***FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY***

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AT	Austria	LI	Liechtenstein
AU	Australia	LK	Sri Lanka
BE	Belgium	LU	Luxembourg
BR	Brazil	MC	Monaco
CF	Central African Republic	MG	Madagascar
CG	Congo	MR	Mauntania
CH	Switzerland	MW	Malawi
CM	Cameroon	NL	Netherlands
DE	Germany, Federal Republic of	NO	Norway
DK	Denmark	RO	Romania
FI	Finland	SE	Sweden
FR	France	SN	Senegal
GA	Gabon	SU	Soviet Union
GB	United Kingdom	TD	Chad
HU	Hungary	TG	Togo
JP	Japan	US	United States of America
KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea		

TELEPHONE EXTENSION SYSTEM

Background Art

The present invention relates to apparatus for remote signaling to a telephone line over the available AC power line. More particularly, the present invention 5 provides a telephone extension system for communicating over the AC power line between telephones of the system and a conventional telephone subscriber telephone line.

U.S. Patent No. 3,949,172 which issued April 6, 1976, entitled "Telephone Extension System Utilizing 10 Power Line Carrier Signals", which is assigned to the same assignee as the present application, describes a system for doing very much the same thing as the system described in the present application. That patent describes a main (or master) station that couples the 15 subscriber's telephone line to his AC power line and a special extension telephone that plugs into his AC power line at any convenient receptacle and is used to make and receive telephone calls in a conventional manner. In that patent, the extension telephone includes a hand set 20 with a microphone at one end and an earphone at the other with separate lines from each. The line from the microphone feeds a radio frequency (RF) transmitter and the line to the earphone comes from an RF receiver. A corresponding RF transmitter and RF receiver are provided 25 at the main station. These transmitter-receiver combinations enable full duplex signalling of voice and

other signals between the main station and the extension telephone over the AC power line.

The power line, RF carrier extension telephone system in Patent No. 3,949,172 is not immune to 5 interference from RF signals (in the same RF frequency range) on the AC power line that come from other sources, such as another telephone subscriber's power line carrier extension telephone system. It is an object of the present invention to provide such a power line carrier 10 telephone extension system with improved protection against interferences by RF signals from other sources on the same AC power line.

Also, the system in Patent No. 3,949,172 is not immune to eavesdropping by others who have access to the 15 same AC power line. It is another object to provide protection against such eavesdropping.

Signalling for other purposes than ordinary telephone usage between a conventional subscriber's telephone line and varicus kinds of transmit-receive 20 devices over the available AC power line are described in U.S. Patent No. 4,058,678, entitled "Remote Signaling to a Telephone Line Using Power Line Carrier Signals" (also assigned to the same assignee as the present application). That patent describes a system whereby 25 appliances or other electrical equipment on the AC power line at a premises can be controlled by an incoming telephone call to the premises. The incoming telephone call brings control signals to the premises and these signals are carried by an RF carrier over the power line 30 to the location of an appliance, for example, to turn the appliance on or off. The same patent describes a system for sending an alarm from the premises. For example, a fire detector in the premises plugged into the power line

BUR.  
OM  
14 - WI

sends an RF alarm signal over the power line to the telephone where it initiates operation of the telephone to call a predetermined number and deliver a pre-recorded message. Clearly, other RF signals from other sources on 5 the same power line may interfere with the intended signals or cause a false or unintended response at the appliance. The interfering signals may interfere by accident or chance or the interference may result from intentional mischief by another on the same power line. 10 In any case, the interference is to be avoided and such mischief frustrated as much as possible. It is another, object of the present invention to provide a technique of signalling over the AC power line that prevents such interference.

15 It is another object of the present invention to provide an improved method and means of transmitting voice and data signals over a conventional AC power line at a typical telephone subscriber premises, whereby interference and mischief caused by signals from other 20 sources on the same power line are avoided.

The power line, RF carrier extension telephone system in Patent No. 3,949,172 provides for a main (or master) station and one extension telephone that plugs into the AC power line at a power line receptacle. That 25 system can accommodate more than one extension telephone and if all transmit at the same extension RF carrier frequency, the main can respond to any one of them. However, the single receiver at the main can respond to only one extension carrier at a time. A specific embodiment described in the present invention provides such a power line carrier telephone extension system including several extension telephones that all can operate at the same time and engage in full duplex communication with

each other and with the telephone line on telephone calls placed or received by any of the telephones of the system and all can initiate telephone line call hold.

It is a further object of the present invention to 5 provide in such a multi extension telephone system as described in the specific embodiment hereof, means whereby all of the extension telephones are capable of initiating telephone line call hold.

In conjunction with any of the above objects, it is 10 further object to provide a secured communication system wherein the system signals are coded to distinguish them and the analog signals accompanying them from interfering signals.

It is another object to provide a multi telephone 15 extension system for a telephone subscriber's premises wherein system phones are capable of initiating telephone line call hold, conferencing between the system phones and other functions, such as the I, P and S functions described herein, over a two element intra-premises 20 transmission line.

It is desirable where two or more of such systems are installed in a premises to integrate them with a single main station. Therefore, it is another object of the present invention to provide a technique of integrating 25 such systems so that the satellite stations of both systems can be operated simultaneously.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a technique of integrating or combining several such meter reading systems with each other and/or with an 30 appliance control and/or an alarm system such as described above so that a single main station at the telephone line serves all the systems.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a power line carrier telephone extension system including several extension telephones that all can operate at the same time and engage in full duplex communication with each other without going on the telephone line (Intercom), while at the same time, any of the system telephones not engaged in such intercom communication can place or receive calls from the telephone line.

It is another object to provide means for signalling to the system telephones while they are engaged in intercom communication, that an outside telephone call is received so that any or all of those telephones can answer the outside call.

It is another object to provide a multi-telephone extension system for a telephone subscriber's premises capable of Intercom and conferencing between the system phones and capable of other functions, such as Hold, Privacy and Special functions, as they are defined herein, over a two element intra-premises transmission line between phones of the system.

Disclosure of the Invention

The present invention is applicable to simplex or duplex communication between remote transmit-receive (TX-RX) devices over the available power line in a premises or over a two element intra-premises transmission line. The communicated signals are processed before transmission and upon reception to eliminate or block at the receiver interfering or mischievous signals from other sources. The remote TX-RX device may be a telephone or it may be a data link modem, or a utility meter specially equipped to respond to interrogation signals from the telephone line by transmitting back meter data signals. In a preferred

embodiment of the present invention, the system transmits voice and/or other data over the AC power line by modulated RF carrier.

The preferred embodiment, described in detail herein 5 is a telephone system for use with a conventional telephone line at a subscriber's premises, using the available AC power line in the premises for transmitting voice and/or data signals simultaneously in both directions (full duplex) between the several extension telephones of 10 the system and the subscriber's telephone line. In this embodiment, the extension telephones of the system plug into conventional AC power line receptacles at the premises. Thus, this telephone extension system is particularly sensitive to RF signals from other sources 15 on the same power line. For example, an AC power main services many premises and the only barrier to RF signals on the power main between the main and the power line in a premises may be the electric meter of the premises. This barrier is usually no greater than barriers within 20 the premises such as across the two phases of the premises power line. Thus, RF launched into the AC power line at a premises is likely to flow to the main and into the power line of a neighboring premises and interfere with a power line communications system in the neighbor- 25 ing premises, and visa-versa.

It is a particular object of the present invention to provide such a telephone extension system including several extension telephones all communicating over the power line that is normally available at a telephone 30 subscriber's premises, which provides all conventional telephone usages.

It is another object to provide for a conventional telephone line at a telephone subscribers premises that

is also a private system for communicating with the telephone line, via the available power line in the premises and not subject to power line interference.

It is another object to provide for a conventional telephone line, a subscriber end data link or modem which is private, for communicating with the telephone line via the available power line in the premises.

It is another object to provide a full duplex private multi-extension communication system for communicating with the conventional telephone line to a premises through the available power line at the premises.

In conjunction with any of the above objects, it is further object to provide such a secured communication system wherein the system signals are coded to distinguish them from interfering signals and the codes are readily set by the user.

Other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be apparent in view of the following descriptions of specific embodiments which represent the best known uses of the invention and are described herein with reference to the drawings.

#### Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1 is an electrical block diagram showing a generic transmit-receive system for transmitting voice and/or other data signals over conventional AC power line such as at a typical residence and incorporating means for coding the signals and analyzing the received coded signals to enable readily distinguishing the received signals from interfering signals;

Figure 2 shows waveforms A to D as illustrations of the technique of coding;

Figure 3 is an electrical block diagram showing a generic, multi-station, full duplex system for

transmitting voice and/or other data signals over a conventional AC power line such as at a typical residence and incorporating the features shown and described with reference to Figs. 1 and 2:

5       Figure 4 is a pictorial representation of a power line carrier telephone extension system incorporating features of the present invention and including a main telephone and one or more extension telephones that communicate with each other and the telephone line over 10 the AC power line and have Intercom (I), Hold (H), Privacy (P) and Special (S) features of operation in addition to all conventional telephone operations;

15       Figure 5 is an electrical block diagram showing the principle electrical subsystems of the main telephone of the system;

20       Figure 6 is an electrical block diagram showing the principle electrical subsystems of one of the extension telephones of the system;

25       Figures 7 to 11 are tables showing the status of operation of the main 'M' and extension ( $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ) telephone subsystems for functions and routines including the following: communicating in the telephone line (TL) mode; M,  $E_1$ , and/or  $E_2$  in the intercom (I) mode; placing a TL call on hold (H), imposing privacy (P) between two phones in the I mode or between any phone and the TL; and using the special (S) function for automatic redialing of last number dialed and automatic dialing from a repertory of stored telephone numbers. In particular, these figures show:

30       Fig. 7 - Answer call from TL by  $E_1$  or  $E_2$ ;  
Place call to TL by  $E_1$  or  $E_2$ ; and  
Conference  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$  and M on TL call.

Fig. 8 - I mode between M and  $E_1$  and/or  $E_2$ ;

I mode between  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ; and

I mode between  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  while M on TL

Fig. 9 - H the TL while M and  $E_1$  and/or  $E_2$  in I

H the TL while  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  in I.

5 Fig. 10 - P between M and TL;

P between M and  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  and TL;

P between  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  and TL; and

P between M and TL, while  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  in I.

Fig. 11 - S used by M - last number redial;

10 S used by M - dial stored number;

S used by  $E_1$  or  $E_2$  - last number redial;

and

S used by  $E_1$  or  $E_2$  - dial stored number.

Figure 12 is an electrical diagram showing the main  
15 telephone power line coupler circuit, for connecting the  
main telephone to the power line;

Figure 13 is an electrical diagram showing the  
extension telephone power line coupler circuit that  
connects an extension telephone to the AC power line;

20 Figure 14A, B, C, D, and E show electrical details  
of the key pad in the main telephone; and

Figures 15A, B and C show electrical details of the  
key pad in an extension telephone;

Figures 16 and 17 show electrical details for the  
25 extension address set switches at the main and extension  
telephones, respectively; and

Figure 18 shows electrical details of the dual  
(dial) tone multi frequency (DTMF) main and system  
generators in the main telephone.

### 30 Best Mode of Carrying Out the Invention

#### Description of Generic Embodiments of the Invention

While the present invention has particular use in a  
power line carrier telephone extension system to reduce  
the effects of interfering RF signals on the power line

whether they are from neighboring power line carrier telephone extension systems or from other sources or mischievous signals intentionally launched into the AC power line to interfere with the user's power line 5 carrier telephone line extension system, it should be understood that the techniques applied in the specific embodiment described herein have useful application in any transmission line system, local area network system, or, other power line carrier systems. For such general 10 application, a generic embodiment of the present invention is described herein.

Simplex Two Station System

Turning first to Figure 1 there shown a block diagram of a power line transmit-receive (TX-RX) system 15 for the simplest case, simplex signalling from one station on the AC power line in a premises to another station on the AC power line (or on any two element, intra-premises transmission line). As will be shown in connection with Figure 1, the first station, the 20 transmitter station 201 generates analog signals and digital CCDE signals including, for example, an address byte, a code byte and a checksum byte, combines this CCDE with the analog signals and transmits the combination as DATA by RF carrier over the AC power line 202 in the 25 premises. The other station, the receiver station 203, first detects the RF carrier and then demodulates the received signal, and detects and examines the CCDE and sends the code byte and the analog part of the signal on to a utilization device depending on whether or not the 30 following conditions are met:

- (a) the RF power level of the detected carrier is at a predetermined minimum value;
- (b) in the CCDE, the address and code bytes match.

BUREAU  
OM  
WIN  
INTERPOL

-11-

the checksum byte;

(c) the address byte satisfies the stored address at the receiver; and

5 (d) the code byte matches one of the stored codes at the receiver.

Figure 2 shows a set of waveforms A to D that illustrate one technique of screening undesirable interfering signals by coding transmitted data. In Figure 2, waveform A shows a transmission interval, 10 called the TX interval that is ordered at the transmitter station 201. Waveform B shows a complete signal interval called the TXDATA interval, within the TX interval. TXDATA includes analog voice signals called VOICE following the code message called CODE. TXDATA begins for a 15 few milliseconds with the special CCDE signals. The TX and TXDATA normal or "resting" state (off) is high when the transmitter is turned off. The transmitter 201TX is ordered to send a TXDATA message when the CODE message from the transmitter (TX) computer 208 goes low and 20 remains there for five milliseconds (5 ms). This indicates to the transmitter that a voice message, VOICE, is coming from the source 204. After this 5 ms interval, the transmitter returns high for no less than 5 ms and the next falling edge is the start of the first bit of 25 the CODE, called a CODE CELL.

Consider, for example, where the RF carrier frequency is 120 KHz and, the CELL is 156 cycles long. Waveform C shows waveform B expanded in time and waveform D shows a CELL of C expanded in time. The CODE CELL 30 width is then 1.3 ms. Then, let the pulse width of each cell be modulated 33 1/3/66 2/3 as shown in waveform D. This gives a minimum pulse width of 0.43 ms. Then, let the CODE protocol be: address byte, code byte and checksum

3URE.

byte, each eight CELLS long. Furthermore, in this protocol, unused CELLS of the address will be zero. The checksum seed is 00. So all three bytes add to zero ignoring the carry. This gives a CODE message length of 5 (24x1.3) + 5 milliseconds = 37 milliseconds at the beginning of the VOICE message.

At the receiver 203RX, after filtering in filter 214, RF carrier threshold detection in 220, demodulating in 216 and filtering in 217, the received CODE is ready 10 for examination and is in the same form as sent. This means that the polarity of the impulses of the CODE is the same as sent. The receiver at 203 continually monitors reception of RF carrier and in the absence of carrier, produces a high signal similar to the high shown 15 by the waveform B. The receiver program responds to a low from its monitor, indicating that RF carrier in the system band pass at a predetermined minimum power level is present, and when this low occurs, it immediately switches to a receiving routine. The receiving routine 20 recognizes all front edges of the demodulated RF carrier, beginning at the start of the CODE message. First, it integrates from 33% to 66% of the width of each received CODE CELL and decides if the CELL is a binary one or zero. If the integrated level for a CELL is high, then 25 the CELL is a zero, and if it is low, then the CELL is a one.

The CELL width, 1.3 ms, and integration over 0.43 ms of this width is suitable for eliminating a certain kind of RF noise that can come from the user's premises, as 30 well as from outside the user's premises, and is produced typically by light dimmers that have silicon control rectifiers (SCR) as the controllable variable element therein for controlling power to a light, because such

SCR's typically produce impulses a few microseconds duration at 8.33 ms intervals. The receiver has high immunity to such noise from SCR's, because the CELL integration action is much slower than the SCR impulse 5 duration, integration is over a much longer interval (0.43 ms) than the impulse interval and the intervals between impulses is much longer than a CELL width. The received VOICE portion OF THE DATA does not interfere with the CODE, because of the lower modulation level of 10 VOICE.

Turning again to Figure 1, the transmitter station 201 includes a source of signal 204 which may be analog voice or other data and a signal compressor 206 that enhances transmission by compressing the amplitude level 15 of the source signals which has advantages in a frequency modulated carrier transmission system. To the output of the compressor 206, in summing circuit 207, is added the CODE and so VOICE and CODE are combined as shown in waveform 2B to form the TXDATA signal. As mentioned 20 above, the CODE may be, for example, the 3 byte code shown in waveform 2C and include the address byte, the code byte, and the checksum byte, each eight bits long, occupying 37ms of the total TXDATA message. This message is fed to the transmitter RF oscillator and modulator 209 25 and the modulated carrier is fed to the transmitter power amplifier 211 via switch 210 which is controlled by the transmitter (TX) computer 208. By this switch the TX computer turns the transmitter 201TX, on and off, depending on a predetermined criteria met by the signal 30 from the source.

The output from the transmitter, in line 211a from power amplifier 211 is fed to the premises AC power line 202, via the transmitter power line coupler 212. This

coupler may perform as a filter-directional coupler and include an absorbing load to protect the transmitter from RF from the power line.

At the receiver, station 203, RF from the transmitter is coupled from the power line 202 by coupler 213 and fed to the receiver 203RX that includes an input filter 214 (which may, for example, be a band pass filter), to limiter 215 and demodulator 216. The output of the demodulator, called RXDATA, is fed through output filter 217 (which may, for example, be a low pass filter) to two stages of audio amplifiers, 218 and 219 and from the second stage to expander 225, via switch 224, producing the receiver output in line 225a. From the output of the second stage audio amplifier 219, the received RXDATA is compared with a reference signal level by code detect circuit 222 that adjusts the pulse level of the RXCODE portion of RXDATA so that it is suitable to feed to the receiver (RX) computer 223. Meanwhile the received RF in the output of the band pass input filter 214 is processed by a carrier level detection circuit and switching amplifier 220 that produces a carrier status on/off signal suitable for the RX computer 223. A similar signal from the carrier level detection circuit 220, the squelch signal, is fed to code detect circuit 222 to squelch its output in case the RF carrier status level is off. Thus, the receiver up to this point screens the received carrier power level and squelches any detected CODE in case the RF level criteria is not met.

The RX computer 223 is programmed to perform the examination of the received message RXCODE that includes the address byte, code byte and the checksum byte. The computer integrates from 33% to 66% of each CODE CELL

and decides if the CELL is a zero or a one. It then adds the address, code and checksum bytes (without carry) and if the sum is zero, it produces an enable; or if not zero, it produces a disable signal that turns switch 224 off. In addition to this, the receiver computer examines the contents of the address byte, the contents of the code byte and it compares them with preset numbers in the computer. If they both compare, i.e., match up, then the disabled-enable signal to switch 224 is not changed. However, if they do not compare and the signal to the amplifier is enable, then that signal is switched to disable. In this way, the computer checks the received address and code to be sure that it is received as sent and then correlates them against stored address and code numbers and if the check and the correlations are all satisfied, the RXDATA is fed through switch 224 to expander circuit 225 and then to voice signal utilization device 226. At the same time (or instead) the correlated code byte may cause the computer to send an initiating signal to the code byte utilization device 227.

All signals in the output of the second stage audio amplifier 219 are fed to expander circuit 225, producing the receiver output that is fed to the signal utilization device 226. The function of the expander is to return the full dynamic range of the received data (VOICE) signals and so compensate for the compression that occurred at the transmitter. Between the switch 224 and expander 225 may be included a summing circuit (not shown) for adding to the VOICE signals any other signals or tones that are appropriate, in view of the overall uses and functions of the system. Such tones and signals may be stored or generated in the RX computer and are selected depending on the code byte of the received

signal. Adding signals in this way is a function of the RX computer in the specific embodiment of the present invention, a power line carrier telephone extension system, that is described in detail herein.

5                   Full Duplex Multi Station System

The generic signalling technique described with reference to Figures 1 and 2, as already mentioned, has particular application and use in a premises such as a residence, in a system within the residence that signals 10 over the available AC power line and so the system requires screening against interfering signals that may originate from neighboring premises on the same power line main. The techniques described herein have application to a multi-station system in the premises 15 that is capable of simultaneous full duplex signalling between all of the stations of the system and so each station includes a transmitter and a receiver and a computer for encoding, decoding and controlling the transmitter and receiver in accordance with the 20 techniques shown and described with reference to Figures 1 and 2. Such a full duplex, multi station (more than two) system is shown in Figure 3. The transmitters and receivers in Figure 3 may be constructed and operate the same as the transmitter 201TX and the receiver 203RX of 25 Figure 1 and, where that is the case, they are referred to by those reference numbers without further detail. The station computers in Figure 3 are all referred to as TX-RX computers which means that they perform all of the functions of the TX computer 208 and the RX computer 223 30 in Figure 1 with respect to the associated transmitter and receiver. This is the case for all of the TX-RX computers except the main TX-RX computer for the main station which will be described further hereinbelow.

Turning to Figure 3 there is shown a typical power main 301 that includes three wires, the neutral 302 and the power wires 303 and 304 at phase one ( $\theta_1$ ) and phase two ( $\theta_2$ ). The phases are, for example,  $180^\circ$  apart and the RMS voltage from the neutral to either of the phases is 120 volts at 60 Hz and so the RMS from phase one to phase two is 240 volts. From the power main 301, a three wire line 305 feeds the premises through the premises electrical power meter 306 to the premises AC power line, 10 denoted generally 202 (as also in Figure 1). For purposes of illustration, the power line 202 is represented by three wires, the neutral 202N, the phase one wire 202 $\theta_1$  and the phase two wire, 202 $\theta_2$ . Within the premises are six satellite stations, herein called 15 stations I, II, III, IV, V and the main, called M, that all couple to one or the other phase of the premises AC power line 202. The stations I to V are denoted 311 to 315 and the M station is denoted 316.

The stations I to V may all be identical except for 20 the carrier frequency that each transmits, referred to herein as RF carrier frequencies or channels  $F_1$  to  $F_5$  respectively. Hence, only station I, denoted 311, will be described herein in detail. Station I includes a transmitter (like transmitter 201TX) and a receiver like 25 (203RX of Figure 1) and so the transmitter and receiver at the station bear the same reference number as in Figure 1. The transmitter and receiver are controlled and supported by a computer that does all the functions and controls that the TX computer 208 and the RX computer 30223 perform in Figure 1 and so the computer at the station is referred to as a TX-RX computer and is denoted 208/223. The source of signal and the utilization device at the station may be the same as source 204 and

utilization device 226 in Figure 1 and so they bear the same reference numbers. The coupler 307 from station I to the AC power line 202 couples RF from the transmitter to the power line, it couples RF from the power line to the receiver and it may draw power from the line for a power supply (not shown) for the transmitter, receiver and computer at the station. The construction of this coupler 307 is described herein with reference to the specific embodiment, a power line telephone extension system, particularly with reference to Figure 13.

Each of the other stations I to V are substantially identical TX-RX combinations as at station I, except that they each transmits at a different carrier frequency. For example, station I transmits the carrier frequency 15 F1, station II transmits the carrier frequency F2, and so forth. All of these stations receive the same carrier frequency, Fm, from the main station at location 316. Hence, the only difference between stations I to V may be that they transmit on different channels. Otherwise, they all send signals from their station source and they all use signals at their station utilization device and the transmission and reception is full duplex between all stations. Clearly, at any of the stations, any of these features may be omitted and the transmission and/or reception at any station may be simplex or a station may transmit only or receive only, depending on the purposes of the total system.

At the main station 316 the transmitter 201T that transmits on carrier frequency Fm, may be substantially the same as the transmitters at the stations I to V and the same as transmitter 201T in Figure 1, except that there is no switch like switch 205 controlling signals to the compressor 206, because the function of the main

-19-

transmitter is not just to transmit signals generated at the main station. The main transmitter's function is also to relay to the receivers at all (or some) of the other stations of the system the received data from any 5 of the transmitters of the other stations of the system. Hence, the transmissions from the station I to V are all received at the main station by the individual channel receivers 321 to 325, respectively, and all data received 10 is combined and immediately transmitted by the main station transmitter 201TX to all of the stations.

Therefore, the input to transmitter 201TX is the combined outputs of the receivers 321 to 325, plus any signals generated at the main station from the main source 326. The output of the main transmitter 201TX is coupled to 15 the power line 202 by the main power line coupler 327. The construction of this coupler is described herein with reference to the specific embodiment, a power line telephone extension system and shown in Fig. 12.

Each of the channel receivers at the main station 20316 is constructed and operates substantially as receiver 203RX already described with reference to Figure 1. Hence, the receivers 321 to 325 each include a band pass input filter 214, a limiter 215, a demodulator 216, a low 25 pass input filter 217, a first stage audio amplifier 218, a second stage audio amplifier 219, a CODE detect circuit 222 and a carrier level detector circuit 220 that squelches the CODE detect circuit output to the RX computer when received RF carrier power level falls below a pre-determined level and feeds an RF carrier status 30 signal to the RX computer. The CODE and RF status control lines from these receivers to the main TX-RX computer 330 are the same as the control lines from receiver 203RX, to RX computer 223 and these lines carry

control signals that function just as already described with reference to Figure 1.

At any of the receivers 321 to 325, when the received RF power level compares satisfactorily with a 5 reference level, the detected RXCODE is fed to the main TX-RX computer 330, via OR circuit 331. In the main computer the TXCODE is correlated with stored signals and if it correlates with the stored signals, the computer immediately enables the corresponding receiver by an 10 enabling signal to the receiver output switch 331. This switch feeds the receiver output to summing circuit 340 that sums the switch outputs of all of the receivers 321 to 325, as those outputs are controlled by the computer. The output of summing circuit 340 is amplified by audio 15 amplifier 341 and fed to expander circuit 342 that has the same function as expander circuit 225 in Figure 1.

The main TX-RX computer 330 is responsive to all of the same inputs and performs all of the same functions and controls as the TX and RX computers 203 and 223 in 20 Figure 1. It performs these functions for the main transmitter 201TX and for all of the channel receivers at the main station; and, in addition, it may store predetermined data signals that may be tones, numbers, VOICE or CODE and are fed into the system for 25 transmission to the stations I to V at summing circuit 207 in the main transmitter 201TX, or they may be fed to the main station VOICE utilization device 343 via line 343a or the main station CODE utilization device 346; via line 346a, depending upon the code signals received from 30 the other five stations and/or depending upon a signal initiated at the main station from the main source 326, fed to the computer via line 326a. Also, at the same time (or instead) the correlated code byte may cause the

-21-

computer to send an initiating signal to the code byte utilization device 346.

At the main station, the received channel VOICE signals from the expander circuit 342 are fed to the main transmitter 201TX via summing circuit 344 and the transmitter input amplifier 345. The purpose of summing circuit 344 is to combine such VOICE signals originating at the main station from the main source 326 with the received VOICE signals for transmission to the other five 10 stations.

The power line carrier systems in both Figures 1 and 3 are presented herein as generic systems, inasmuch as they teach techniques of signalling that can be used for any of a number of different specific applications. Figure 1 shows and describes a simplex unidirectional signalling system including just two stations, one transmits only and the other receives only. Figure 3, on the other hand, teaches a system including a multitude of stations all of which both transmit and receive full duplex and all stations can conference together and draw upon signals stored in the main station computer for transmission to all or selected of the other stations depending on the address in the CODE that accompanies the signal. Common techniques incorporated in both of these examples include the techniques for screening the received signals to eliminate interfering signals whether they originate from within the premises where the system is used or from outside of the premises from, for example, a neighbors premises that connects to the same power main 301, on the same side of the power main transformer 301a as the premises in question. That screening is described in detail with reference to the

operation of the system in Figure 1 and applies also in Figure 3.

Where the power main 301 provides two phases as shown in Figure 3, a premises that takes power from the 5 main is likely to take power from both of the phases and so some of the electrical outlets (receptacles) in the premises will access one phase of the power line while others will access the other phase and so within that premises, some of the stations are likely to plug into 10 one phase while other stations plug into the other phase.

The stations plugged into the same phase have a relatively low attenuation transmission path between them, whereas stations plugged into different phases have a relatively higher attenuation transmission path between 15 them. The screening by code and address and checksum signals, described herein, afford assurance that interfering signals in the receiver band from a neighboring premises will be rejected.

#### DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

20 Figure 4 illustrates a power line carrier telephone extension system that includes three telephones on one telephone line sometimes referred to as a 1 x 3 telephone system. This system provides conventional telephones services which may be either rotary dial or 15 Touch Tone type, at several locations along the AC power line available at a telephone subscriber's premises. Other uses include sending and/or receiving voice or data or alarm or control signals by RF carrier over the conventional AC power line for any purpose, including all 30 purposes mentioned in this application.

As shown in Figure 4, the subscriber's premises has a telephone line 1 which usually consists of four wires (not shown) called the tip line, the ring line, earth

-23-

ground and a fourth line for special party line ringing circuits. The ring line is usually red, the tip line is green, the earth ground is black and the fourth line is yellow. As a rule, three of these lines, the tip, ring and ground, connect to "on line" conventional telephones at the premises and also connect to telephone line wall jacks 2.

In a conventional telephone system at a subscribers premises, extension telephones connect to the telephone line at the wall jack by merely plugging them in and any such extension phone can engage an incoming telephone call and can place a telephone call to the telephone line. The system described herein provides the same service and, in addition, provides features called: 15 Intercom (I), Hold (H), Privacy (P) and Special (S), that are described more fully hereinbelow. These are all in addition to the feature that the extension telephones of the system can be used at any of the available AC power receptacles in the premises and so their use is not 20 restricted to where a telephone line wall jack is provided.

In Figure 4 access to the subscriber's telephone line 1 is at the telephone wall jack 2. The main (M) telephone 3 of the system plugs into the jack 2 by a 25 conventional (modular) telephone plug 4 at the end of line 4a and also plugs into a nearby AC power line outlet 5 by an AC power adapter plug 6 at the end of power cord 6a. By these connections, the subscriber's telephone line 1 is linked to his AC power line, which is denoted 30 generally 10. At any of the other AC power outlets (receptacles) on his AC power line 10, the system extension telephones can be used. For example, at 11, extension (E<sub>1</sub>) telephone 12 plugs into the power line 10

by its AC power adaptor plug 15, via its power cord 15a. Similarly, at another AC power outlet 16, the system extension ( $E_2$ ) telephone 17 plugs into the power line by AC power adaptor plug 20, via its power cord 20a. The 5 system extension telephones 12 and 17 may be the same in construction and operation except for the specific RF carrier frequency  $F_1$  or  $F_2$  and address signals that are set in each in conjunction with similar settings in the main telephone 3.

10 In operation, an incoming telephone call ring signal in the telephone line 1 is processed through the main telephone 3, which transmits a ring signal by the main RF carrier frequency,  $F_m$ , (channel m) over the power line 10 and it is received by the system  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  phones, 12 and 17, causing them to ring. This incoming call can be answered by any of the system telephones, or all can simultaneously engage the incoming call and communicate with each other. Thus, the incoming caller and all the system telephones can conference together. In addition, 20 the incoming call is not terminated at the subscriber's location until all of the system telephones are on hook (cradled). Furthermore, any of the system telephone can place a call to the telephone line, just as any conventional phone places a call, by the phone going off hook and signalling the call number by using the phone's key pad (buttons); and before, during or after this signalling, the other phones of the system can go off hook and join in the call. Thus, the normal operation of the 25 system illustrated in Figure 4 is much the same as conventional extension telephone operation, with the added feature and advantage that the extension telephones of the system can be located in the premises at any convenient AC power outlet.

-25-

Main Telephone Circuits

Turning next to Figure 5 there is shown an overall electrical block diagram of the system main telephone circuits. Some of the block sub-systems shown in Figure 5 are shown also in greater detail in other figures that are denoted in the blocks. Some parts of these sub-systems are shown in more than one of the detail figures. This is done intentionally as an aid in understanding the details. Wherever a given part appears 10 in any figure, it bears the same reference number.

All signals that are transmitted between the main (M) and extension ( $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ) phones of the system are transmitted by RF carrier ( $F_m$ ,  $F_1$  or  $F_2$ ) and are called system signals. The transmission of system signals is 15 denoted TXDATA and the reception RXDATA.

The main telephone 3 circuits include a telephone line interface subsystem 21 that connects directly to the subscriber's telephone line 1, via plug 4 and jack 2. The interface 21 includes a telephone line network 22 20 that is a multi-port directional coupler similar to the network used in conventional telephones. The interface provides an appropriate impedance across the telephone line and directs incoming and outgoing voice signal between the system and the telephone line. It also 25 switches signals between the system main and the  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  phones subject to the position of the main phone hook switch 23. More particularly, interface 21 feeds the main telephone ringer drive circuit 24 directly from the telephone line and feeds the main transmitter subsystem 30 25 from the telephone line and the main receivers (MRX) 26 via the multi-port system network 27 (also a directional coupler) and referred to herein as the system hybrid. The MTX 25, in turn, feeds ring, voice and data

(VOICE) and CODE system signals through the main power line coupler circuit 28 to the AC power line 10.

The ports of network 22 are: input port MMIC/D1; output port MEp; and input-output port TL that connects 5 to the telephone line via diode bridge 22a and the 55 relay switch 33. The parts of hybrid 27 are: input port MRXN (line 26) output port MTK to an input of transmitter; and input-output port TL that connects to the telephone line via C relay switch 34.

10 As mentioned above, ringer circuit 24 responds, to ring signals on the telephone line and, preferably, it gets all of its power for responding to these signals from the telephone line. In response to the ring signals, it drives the main telephone annunciator (ring 15 speaker) 30 via speaker transformer 30a.

The main speaker 30 is also energized by intercom signals from the main TX-RX computer 31 when the computer decodes an intercom signal from one of the extension phones in the system. This intercom signal and power 20 supply voltage from voltage regulator 32 energize the speaker through the drive circuit 24 to produce an audible sound, such as a buzz.

The main power line coupler circuit 28 is a reactive circuit and, in fact, a transformer. However, it should 25 be understood that this coupling between the AC power line and the telephone line can be capacitive as well as inductive..

The MRX subsystem 26 receives RF carrier signals from the power line coupler 28 that originate from the 30 system  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  telephones and the received signals that pass tests for RF power level and CODE are fed by line 26a through the directional coupler 27, of interface 21, to the telephone line 1. Among the system signals that

may be received, originating from one of the system extension telephones, are command or status signals. They are strictly CODE signals including the code byte, like the extension hook signal and key pad signals. 5 These are fed from receivers 26 to the main TX-RX computer subsystem 31 and initiate special actions at the main telephone as are described more fully hereinbelow.

The main TX-RX computer 31 processes all system signals between the main and extension phones. More 10 particularly, it processes all initiating and terminating signals from the telephone line including ring signals, processes all signals from the system extension telephones, processes the main telephone hook switch signal derived from hook switch 23, processes all signals 15 from the main key pad 32, controls the subset (SS) relay switch 33, the carrier (C) relay switch 34 and the hold (H) relay switch 35, (all in the telephone line interface 21), turns the main transmitter 25 on and off, adds CODE to the analog VOICE transmitted by the main transmitter 20 and controls the system dual tone multi-frequency (DTMF) generator 36, depending on coded key pad signals received at the main from an extension.

In this processing, the main computer performs logic functions on all CODE signals received from the 25 extensions as described above with reference to Figs. 2A to 2D and it generates and adds CODE to all signals transmitted by the main transmitter and, unless the CODE that accompanies a received signal satisfies predetermined criteria programmed in the main computer, 30 the received signal is not recognized, even if it is at the RF carrier frequency  $F_1$  or  $F_2$  and the received RF power level is sufficient.

### Extension Telephone Circuits

An extension telephone ( $E_1$  or  $E_2$ ) circuits are shown in Figure 6. These circuits include the extension power line coupler circuit 41 that may be constructed and 5 function the same as the main power line coupler 23. All signals transmitted by main transmitter 25 (called system signals) and fed through coupler 23 over the AC power line 10 are fed via the extension power line coupler 41 to the extension receiver 42. The first part of a signal 10 transmitted by the main transmitter is the CODE that includes an address byte and a code byte. For example, beginning with the extension telephone on-hook, the first signal may be a telephone line ring signal. That ring signal is simply an address byte, code byte and check-sum 15 byte (the CODE) that are detected at the extension receiver 42 by CODE detector circuit 222 that feeds detected CODE to the extension TX-RX computer 46. If this CODE passes the logic tests at the computer, the computer turns on the ringer circuit 47 that drives the 20 annunciator (ring speaker) 48 via transformer 48a and so the extension phone "rings".

Thus, an initial received signal at the extension receiver 42, the ring signal, received while all system phones are on-hook, is processed by the extension 15 computer which turns on the extension ringer circuit 47 that drives the speaker 48 producing an audible sound. When the extension phone is answered by lifting its handset 49, the extension hook switch 50 produces an off-hook signal that is fed to computer 46. In response 30 to this, the computer turns on the extension transmitter 44 which transmits the extension off-hook CODE signal (containing the off-hook code byte) generated by computer 46 on the extension RF carrier frequency, through coupler 41 to the power line 10 to the main phone receiver.

-29-

Thereafter, at the main phone, the extension off-hook CODE is detected and processed and the telephone line loop for the extension is closed by actuating both the subset (SS) and carrier (C) relays 33 and 34 (as shown in 5 Fig. 5) and the main transmitter is turned on again, beginning another main telephone line TXDATA phase which consists of CODE followed by signals from the telephone line. The telephone line signals are conducted via relays 33 and 34 and hybrid 27 to the main transmitter 10 25. All of these signals are received at the extension receiver 42, processed in 46 and the telephone line signals fed to the extension earphone 51. Meanwhile, audio signals from the extension phone microphone 52 are fed to the extension transmitter where CODE from the 15 extension computer 46 is added and begins another extension microphone TXDATA phase.

All of the above described may occur as described while the main phone is on-hook, or after the main and the other extension phone go off-hook after the extension 20 of discussion. Thus, all audio signals from the microphones of all phones of the system that are off-hook are fed to the telephone line and all telephone line signals are transmitted to the earphone of all phones of the system that are off hook.

25 The main and the extension circuits shown in Figures 5 and 6 are for the most part symmetrical with respect to each other. For example; note the following:

	<u>Main Circuits</u>	<u>Extension Circuits</u>
30	transmitter 25	transmitter 44
	receiver 26	receiver 42
	ringer drive 24, speaker 30	ringer drive 47, speaker 48
	key pad 32	key pad 53
	power line coupler 28	power line coupler 41

As will be seen from detailed descriptions of these circuits, some of these main subsystems circuits are interchangeable with their equivalent extension subsystem circuits. For example: the power line couplers 23 and 5 41 can be identical; the transmitters can be the same except they generate different carrier frequencies, and the receivers can be the same except their input filters are tuned to different frequency bands.

Conventional Telephone Functions

10 The main and extension telephones in the systems perform all the functions of conventional single line telephones in current use by subscribers with one or more extension telephones. These are:

- (1) placing an outside call by any of the phones;
- 15 (2) receiving an outside call by any of the telephones;
- (3) conferencing between any and all of the telephones on an outside call; and
- (4) an outside call is held so long as any one of 20 the telephone receivers is off hook (and in the telephone line (TL) mode).

In addition, so long as an outside call is held because one of the system extension phones remains off hook, either or both of the extension phones can be unplugged 25 from the power line and moved and then plugged in again without terminating the outside call. The outside call can be terminated only by one of the system phones, while plugged in, going on hook while the other phones of the system are either already on hook or not plugged in. 30 This feature is intrinsic to the system whether the system includes the Intercom (I), Hold (H), Privacy (P) or Special (S) functions.

Additional Telephone Functions

The main and extension telephone computers 31 and 46, shown in the electrical block diagrams of Figures 5 and 6 perform all of the processing, logic, tests and controls already described with reference to those figures in response to signals input to the computers to accomplish the conventional functions of the telephones described above. Additional telephone functions of Hold (H), Intercom (I), Privacy (P) and Special (S), described hereinbelow, can be added to this performance. In the performance of these additional functions, the computers store many values and parameters that are preset therein and they generate CODE, control and tone signals as will be more fully described below. In particular, the computers perform processing, logic, and tests and store all of the signals as described above with reference to both of the generic embodiments of the present invention shown and illustrated by Figures 1 to 3 and the specific embodiment shown by Figures 4 to 6, as they are described so far. With reference to the generic embodiments, those are the values and parameters stored and the functions performed by both the TX computer 208 and the RX computer 223 and the full duplex, multi-station performance as described with reference to Figures 1 to 3. With reference to the specific embodiment shown and described so far with reference to Figures 4 to 6, the full duplex, multi-telephone performance (a 1 x 3 telephone system) and the technique of encoding all transmitted signals with CODE including an address byte, code byte, and checksum byte, the protocol of the encodement and the technique of screening the detected RF carrier at a receiver first for RF power level and then testing the CODE is all substantially the same as in the generic embodiments. Hence, in the following detailed

description of the operations of the specific embodiment incorporating the additional functions of H, I, P and S, reference is sometimes made to the generic embodiments and all that is described and shown therein is 5 incorporated in the specific embodiment.

The specific embodiment includes the additional functions (features) H, I, P and S that have already been mentioned and identified. These additional functions are all accomplished and provided for in the specific 10 embodiment substantially entirely through the programming of the main computer 31 in the main telephone and the extension computer 46 in each of the extension telephone and, except for a very few exceptions, there are no additional electronic components or subsystems in the 15 main or extension telephones that serve specifically to accommodate these additional functions. Before describing the structure and operation of the main and extension systems to perform these additional functions (in addition to conventional functions), the H, I, P, 20 and S functions are very briefly described below as an aid to understanding their uses and benefits.

Hold - H

Each phone in the system has a Hold key or button, H, that when pressed puts an outside call on hold if the 15 particular phone is off-hook and in the telephone line (TL) mode (not in the I mode); and, provided further, that that phone is the only one in the system that is off-hook. The H is released by the same phone that placed the outside call on hold, going on-hook and then 30 off-hook, or by any phone in the system that is off-hook, switching from the I to the TL mode. H can also be engaged by any of the extension phones, while engaged in an outside call, upon being unplugged from the power line

-33-

during the call. This unplugging behaves just like pressing the Hold button and going on-hook.

Intercom - I

Each phone in the system has an Intercom button, denoted I or I/TL which flips the phone between the I and TL modes. In general the system is in either the TL or I mode at all times depending upon activation of the I button. An exception to this is that an extension phone, cannot go to the TL mode and place an outside call while the main phone is in the I mode.

While any one of the system telephones is in the I mode, which is accomplished by taking the phone off-hook and pressing the I button, the other phones in the system can be signalled that they are being called for an I communication. This is done by the phone that is off-hook and in the I mode pressing "1", "2", or "0" on its key pad. The "1" is to call extension phone  $E_1$ , "2" is to call extension phone  $E_2$  and "0" is to call the main phone (M) and each press of the button causes several buzzes (B'JZ) at the phone being called for an I mode communication. Also, in this way, any of the phones can intercom buzz themselves.

Privacy - P

Each of the phones in the system has a Privacy button on the key pad denoted P. Pressing this button "locks out" any of the other phones in the system that are on-hook. In other words, it stops additional phones in the system from joining in the same mode (I or TL) as the phone that initiated P. The system does this by not enabling the microphone (Mic) and the ear phone (Ep) of the locked out phone, if the locked out phone is an extension phone; or not coupling the network 22 to the hybrid 27, if the locked out phone is the main phone.

To this situation, the main computer may add an error beep or tone if it is informed that any of the phones in the system that have been locked out by the privacy action come off-hook. This beep enters the communication to the phone or phones engaged in the privacy communication (either in the I or TL mode) and alerts those phones that the locked out phone wishes to join in. The beep is initiated by the locked out phone, by the operator of that phone pressing "1", "2", or "0" on the keypad and the operator of the phone that is so buzzed may then cancel the P situation by merely pressing his P button.

Special - S

Each of the phones of the system has a Special function button on the key pad denoted S. Included among the S features of the system is the following: either of the extension phones can silence the ring at that extension made by an incoming telephone call and can silence any and all intercom buzzes. This is accomplished at the extension phone by coming off-hook and then, while in the TL mode, pressing the S button on the key pad.

Another Special feature is the storage in each telephone computer of the last number dialed by that phone. Each phone in the system stores in its computer the last number that was dialed by that phone. For example, a typical use of this feature is when a telephone call is made by the phone and it gets a busy signal back and then the phone is hung up. Thereafter, the operator of that phone coming off-hook can redial that last number dialed by merely pressing the S button and then the "0" button. Redialing is speed dialed at about seven digits per second.

The main phone can also store a repertory of many other telephone numbers. The number of telephone numbers that can be stored depends on the power of the main computer. For example, it may store twelve additional 5 numbers with a maximum of 160 digits, the last number dialed at the main being included among these digits. In that particular case, the numbers that are stored in the main telephone computer are entered into storage in the main computer by the operator thereof as follows: first 10 coming off-hook; then pressing the S button; then the "#" button; then one of the twelve buttons in the top three rows of the key pad (see Figure 14A); and then pressing the specific telephone number to be entered by pressing that number in the sequence of keys of the pad. Entry of 15 the stored number can be stopped by either the main phone going on-hook or by pressing any of the feature buttons I, H, P or S. Automatic or speed dialing from this repertory of stored numbers can then be done from any of the telephones in the system, by that phone coming 20 off-hook, pressing the S button and then pressing any of the buttons in the top three rows of buttons on the key pad (see Figures 14A and 15A). It should be noted that these buttons that initiate dialing of the stored telephone numbers include the I, H and ? buttons.

25 In the event there is no more storage capacity left in the main computer for storing telephone numbers, the computer will either ignore the additional numbers that are attempted to store or it may produce an error beep to the earphone of the main phone.

30 Clearly, in the event of AC power failure, unless the main telephone is equipped with batteries, the stored telephone numbers will be lost. Also, in such a case, if the main telephone is unplugged from the AC power line,

the stored telephone numbers will be lost. In the extension telephones, the last number dialed that is stored therein is lost in the event of power failure or if the telephone is unplugged from the power line, unless 5 the extension is also equipped with battery power.

With this general understanding of the I, H, P and S features, now consider the following description of the sequences of operations performed by the main (M) and extension (E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub>) phone systems, subsystems and 10 computers.

System Operations - Conventional & Additional

Conventional operation of telephones in the system is defined herein to include placing or receiving an outside call by the main or either of the extensions and 15 conferencing by any two or all of the three phones with an outside call. These functions are described as routines and subroutines performed by the subsystems in the M, E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub> telephones. These conventional telephone performance routines and subroutines are listed 20 in the function table in Fig. 7 and for each of these routines the system inputs, subsystems activated and signals produced and transmitted are listed in the table as an aid to understanding operation of the system.

Nomenclature

25 Systems, subsystems and functions are abbreviated in the table and the following description as follows:

<u>Systems</u>		<u>Touch Pad Routines</u>	
Main	M	Dial Call Numbers for Outside	
First Extension	E1	or Intercom Call	DI
30 Second Extension	E2	Actuate Intercom Button	I
Telephone Line	TL	Actuate Hold Button	H
Power Line	PL	Actuate Privacy Button	P
		Actuate Special Button	S

-37-

<u>Subsystems</u>	<u>Main</u>	<u>Ext. 1</u>	<u>Ext. 2</u>
Hook Switch	Mhk	E1Hk	E2Hk
Network 22	Ntwk	-	-
Hybrid Circuit 27	Hybd	-	-
5 Ringer Drive Circuit	MRng	E1Rng	E2Rng
Transmitter	MTX	E1TX	E2TX
Receiver Channel 1	MRX1	-	-
Receiver Channel 2	MRX2	-	-
Receiver Channel M	-	E1RX	E2RX
10 Subset Relay 33	SS	-	-
Carrier Relay 24	C	-	-
Hold Relay 35	H	-	-
Main MDTMF 37	MDTMF	-	-
System DTMF 38	SDTMF	-	-
15 Dial Key Pad	MKP	E1KP	E2KP
Microphone	MMic	E1Mic	E2Mic
Earphone	MEp	E1Ep	E2Ep

TX Routines

Turn On Transmitter  
 20 Add CCODE  
 Transmission of Received  
 Signals  
 Transmit DTMF

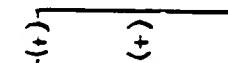
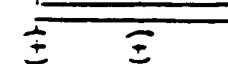
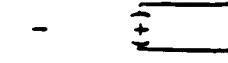
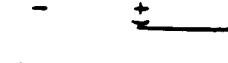
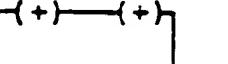
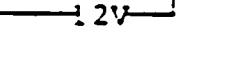
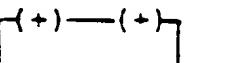
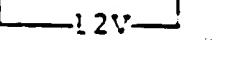
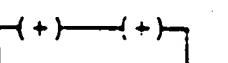
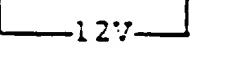
RX Routines

TX	Produce RF Carrier	RF
CD	Status Signal	
	Detect CCODE	CD
RX	Receiver Out Enable	En
DTMF	System DTMF Signal	DTMF
	Add Tone (E1, E2)	Tn

Note that the same nomenclature applies to systems,  
 25 subsystems and routines at each of the phones, except  
 that at the extensions E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub>: M is replaced by E<sub>1</sub> or  
 E<sub>2</sub>; there is no RX input into the transmitter, but  
 instead there is the extension handset microphone (Mic)  
 input enabled, referred to as MicEn; the output of the  
 receiver enables the handset earphone (Ep) and when  
 enabled is called EpEn; and a tone is sometimes added to  
 the output of the receiver and indicated as Tn. At both  
 the main and the extensions, intercom signalling is  
 referred to as a buzz (BUZ) and indicated as the function  
 BUZ. The above symbols are used to describe systems,  
 subsystems and routine functions as columns along the top  
 of the table and are also used to define the routines,  
 subroutines and responses as rows along the left side of  
 the table.

Before describing these routines for performing the conventional and additional functions (defined herein), consider the telephone line interface subsystem 21 shown in Fig. 5 and its operation to effect the I and TL modes 5 and H for various combinations of M, E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub> engaged in I and TL modes. The table below shows columns that represent the status of the subset (SS) relay 33, carrier (C) relay 34, hold (H) relay 35, main hookswitch (MHK) 33, network (Ntwk) 22 and hybrid (Hybd) 27 for the 10 routines listed as rows. The status of each circuit is indicated as + or -. For the relays, the + indicates that the relay is actuated and the - that it is not actuated, for the main hookswitch the + indicates off hook and the - indicates on hook and for the network and 15 hybrid the + indicates that it is active to conduct signals between the telephones of the system and the telephone line in the I or TL mode, whereas - indicates that it is not so active.

Telephone Line Interface Operations

	C	SS	H	MHk	Ntwk	Hybd	TL
M--TL	-	-	-	+	+	+	-
M--TL, (E1 + E2) - I	-	-	-	+	+	-	-
5 (M + E1)--TL	+	-	-	+			TL
(M + E1 + E2)--TL	+	-	-	+			TL
(E1 + E2)--TL	+	+	-	-	-		TL
H--TL, (M + E2) - I	-	+	+	+			12V
H--TL, (M + E1) - I	-	+	+	+			12V
10 H--TL, (M + E1 + E2) - I	-	+	+	+			12V
H--TL, (E1 + E2) - I	-	-	+	-	-	-	-
Nothing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

As shown by the table above, when M and  $E_1$  and/or  $E_2$  are in the I mode together, Ntwk and Hybd are both 15 and in series with 12 volts from the power supply across the series. The table also shows that when M and  $E_1$  and/or  $E_2$  are in the TL mode, Ntwk and Hybd are both activated and in parallel across the telephone line. When any of the routines listed in the table are called 20 for, the main TX-RX computer 31 is programmed by received CODE and other inputs to the computer to control the C, SS and H relays as indicated in the table. For this purpose, as shown in Fig. 5, the computer 31 outputs

include signals in lines denoted C, SS and H to relay control amplifiers 34a, 33a and 35a that control the solenoids 34b, 33b and 35b of the relays 34, 33 and 35, respectively.

5

#### Conventional Function Operation

10

Refer next to Fig. 7 along with Figs. 5 and 6 and the interface operations table above. The table in Fig. 7 shows the routines and subroutines and responses, @ M,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ , for performing conventional functions by the three phones of the system. The functions shown by the table in Fig. 7 are:

Answer call by  $E_1$ ;

Place call by  $E_1$ ; and

Conference ( $E_1 + E_2 + M$ ) -- TL.

15

For these routines a + under the column of subsystem or function indicates that the subsystem or function is active and a blank indicates that it is not active (the same as a minus). Under Place Call by  $E_1$ , the first subroutine is  $E_1$  - Off Hook, which is an input command into the system and  $E_1$  responds by TX and CD. In response to this, at M, RX1 receives RF and CD and computer 31 actuates C and SS and turns on transmitter 25 to TXCD to  $E_1$  through the Hybd. Here, it should be noted that when C and SS are both +, Hybd is connected across TL and the CD transmitted to  $E_1$  is received at  $E_1$  (as indicated by R @  $E_1$ ) where  $E_1$  receives RF and CD and, as a result, the computer 46 at  $E_1$  sends an EpEn signal to its receiver 42 and sends a TX and an MicEn signal to its transmitter 44. The effect of all this is to store at the main computer 31 the off hook status of  $E_1$ , connect hybrid 27 across the telephone line 1, turn on the transmitter at  $E_1$  and enable the microphone and earphone in the handset at  $E_1$  and so the

operator at  $E_1$  hears a telephone line dial tone from the telephone line in his earphone indicating that he may then dial a number.

The next subroutine is  $E_1$ -Dial, which is an input 5 command at  $E_1$  and is initiated by the operator punching keys on keypad 53 that are fed to  $E_1$  computer 46 which turns them into CODE (CD) that is transmitted by transmitter 44 to M. The response at M is to receive the CODE including the code byte for the number dialed at 10  $E_1$ , detect it and feed the detected CODE to the main computer 31. In this process denoted  $R \oplus M$ , RX1 output is disabled and the system DTMF 36 converts the received code to dial tones that are sent in line 36a to the output of receivers 26 and fed in that output to hybrid 15 27, to the telephone line. The same tones are also fed to the input of main transmitter 25 and sent back to  $E_1$ , where they are received at the earphone of  $E_1$  as tones and so the operator at  $E_1$  can hear the tones he is dialing. This is indicated in the table by  $R \oplus E_1$ . 20 Thereafter, when the dialed call goes through, the routine Place Call by  $E_1$  is completed.

The next routine shown in the table in Fig. 7 is Answer Call by  $E_1$ . This routine begins with the input command Ring at M which transmits ring code to  $E_1$  and 25  $E_2$ . The  $R \oplus E_1$  is to receive the ring code and process it in the computer 46 producing a signal in line 47a to turn on drive circuit 47 that drives the speaker 48. These signals in line 47a from the computer cause the speaker to produce a distinct audible sound 30 indicating an outside call ring. The next subroutine is  $E_1$ -off hook which commences with the off hook input command at  $E_1$  and  $E_1$  transmits CD indicating this status. The  $R \oplus M$  is to receive that CODE, enable RX1

and actuate C and SS placing Hybd across the TL. In addition, the main transmits CODE to  $E_1$  and the R @  $E_1$  upon receiving this is to enable the Mic and Ep at  $E_1$ . When that occurs, the status  $E_1$ -TL is achieved and so  $E_1$  has answered the incoming telephone call.

5 The routine for conferencing (Conf) between  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$  and M and the telephone line continues from the status of  $E_1$ -TL. The first step in this routine is  $E_2$ -Off hook and then M-Off hook. The subroutines and 10 responses involved in these procedures can be followed from the table.

I Mode Operations

The table in Fig. 8 shows the routines, subroutines and responses to accomplish each of the following:

15	$(M + E_1 + E_2) - I$	
	$(E_1 + E_2) - I$	
	$(E_1 + E_2) - I, M-TL$	
20	M - Off HK	Which activates Hk and Ntwk at M;
	M - I	When M presses the I button, which activates Hybd and relay SS so that Mhk, Ntwk, Hybd and SS are all activated which connects Ntwk and Hybd in series across 12 V, as illustrated by the operation table on page 34;
25	M - D1E1	When M presses the I button, it turns on TXm, transmitting CD1 (for BUZ), addressed to E1. (Note that when MTXm CD, the RX input to MTX is from Hybd);
30	R @ E1	The response at E1 is to receive RXm, detect the CD1 (for BUZ) and actuate the E1 ring drive 47 with a BUZ

-43-

signal and so E1 is buzzed for an intercom communication;

15                   E1 - Off Hk     When E1 goes Off Hk, it turns on TX1, transmitting CD (for E1 - Off Hk);

20                   R @ M         The response at M is to receive, RX1, detect the CD (for E1 - Off Hk) which causes TXM to send CD1 (addressed to E1) for MicEn and EpEn at E1;

25                   R @ E1         The response at E1 is to RXm, detect the CD1 and MicEn and EpEn; and so the

30                   M + E1 - I     Routine status is achieved.

35                   M D1E2         When M presses the 2 button, it turns on TXm transmitting CD2 (for BUZ) addressed to E2;

40                   R @ E2         The response at E2 is to receive RXm, detect the CD2 (for BUZ) and activate E2 ring drive 47 with a BUZ signal and so E2 is buzzed for an intercom communication;

45                   E2 - Off Hk     When E2 goes Off Hk, it turns on TX2, transmitting CD (for E2 - Off Hk)

50                   R @ M         The response at M is to receive RX2, detect the CD (for E2 - Off Hk) which causes TXm to send CD2 (addressed to E2) for MicEn and EpEn at E2;

55                   R @ E2         The response at E2 is to RXm, detect the CD2 and MicEn and EpEn; and so the

60                   M + E1 + E2 - I     Routine status is achieved.

The second series of routines starts from the routine status M + E1 + E2 - I and the purpose is to achieve E1 + E2 - I. This done as follows:

M On Hk

When M goes On Hk, the M Hk, Ntwk and Hybd are deactivated and relay SS is deactivated so that the outputs of MRX1 and MRX2, combined at 340 are fed directly through Hybd 27 as RX to the input of MTXM and E1 and E2 remain in intercom; and so Routine status is achieved.

5

E1 + E2 - I

The third series starting from E1 + E2 - I, is to 10 achieve E1 + E2 - I, M - Tl. This is done as follows:

M Off Hk

When M goes Off Hk, while E1 and E2 are in I, Ntwk is activated, but the Hybd is not activated, because relay C is not activated (when activated, C relay couples one side of Hybd to the telephone line). At M, the Ep receives dial tone from the TL, via the Ntwk.

15

M D1 Tl

20

When M gets dial tone, M dials (D1) an outside number and, presumably, the call is answered; and so

E1 + E2 - I, M - Tl Routine status is achieved.

In the first of this series of routines, the starting routine status is with M1, E1 and E2 all on-hook. In the 25 last of these routines, the starting point is with E<sub>1</sub> and E<sub>2</sub> in the I mode when an incoming ring signal from the telephone line occurs, whereupon M comes off hook to answer the incoming call. Having followed the routines, subroutines and responses described in detail with 30 reference to the conventional functions in the table in Fig. 7 and being mindful of the operation of interface 21 as shown in the table on page 34, one should have no problem in following all steps in detail shown in Fig. 8.

-45-

H Function Operations

The table in Fig. 9 describes the routines, subroutines and responses for performing the following uses of the H feature:

5            H - TL by M and  $(M + E_1)$  - I  
               H - TL by  $E_1$  and  $(E_1 + E_2)$  - I  
               H - TL by M and  $(E_1 + E_2)$  - I

It should be noted here that any time the telephone line is in hold, whether initiated by the main or an extension, Ntwk and Hybd are both active and in series with 12 volts from the power supply across the series while the hold relay impedance 35c is across the telephone line. In this situation any combination of intercom calls can be made between M,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ .

10          During the H-TL status, any of the above intercom situations are possible, however, only M, being not engaged in I (the last situation) can come off hook into the TL mode and cancel the H. This means that if while H-TL, M and  $E_1$  are in I and  $E_2$  comes off hook, I is 20 cancelled and all three phones are placed in the TL mode.

P Function Operations

Various P function routines are shown in the table in Fig. 10. These routines include the following:

25          P between M and TL  
               P between M,  $E_1$  and TL  
               P between  $E_1$  and TL  
               P between  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$  and TL  
               P between M and TL while  $(E_1$  and  $E_2)$  - I.

In any of the above situations, the system phone that is 30 locked out can come off hook and alert the others that it wishes to join in. This is done simply by the locked out phone coming off hook and the operator pressing 1, 2 or 0 on the keypad to signal whichever of the other phones it

wishes to request that the lock out be cancelled. This routine is shown in the last of the above listed. It should be noted that when M and  $E_1$  are in the I mode and either of them initiates P, that  $E_2$  is lock out and so if  $E_2$  comes off hook it is locked out of the I and it has no access to TL. On the other hand, if  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are in the I mode and either presses P, the main M is locked out of the I, but if M comes off hook it is automatically in the TL mode and M can then be switched by its operator to the I mode and request to join the intercom. This sequence is also shown in Fig. 10.

#### S Function Operations

The S function is initiated by any of the phones by coming off hook in the TL mode and the operator pressing the S button. It is used to either redial the last number dialed by that phone or to dial out one of the stored telephone numbers among a repertory of stored telephone numbers stored at the main computer. Several routines involving the S feature are described in the table in Fig. 11. They include the following:

- S by M - last number redial;
- S by M - dial repertory number;
- S by  $E_1$  - last number redial;
- S by  $E_1$  - dial repertory number.

#### M and E Computers and Codes

The CODE part of the transmitted data (TXDATA) including Address Byte, Code Byte and Checksum Byte shown by the waveforms in Fig. 2 is suitable for the power line carrier telephone extension system described herein as the specific embodiment and shown particularly by the electrical block diagram in Figs. 5 and 6. As this CODE is used in the telephone extension system, the Address Byte is an 8 bit binary number of which the user manually

sets 4 bits and the other 4 bits are fixed (or preset in production). The user sets 4 bits of the  $E_1$  address and 4 bits of the  $E_2$  address by the address set switches 38 at the main telephone. The user then sets 5 the same 4 bits of the  $E_1$  address in address set switches 54 at  $E_1$  and the same 4 bits of the  $E_2$  address in address set switches 54 at  $E_2$ . By setting the address set switches in this way, the transmitted Address Byte that is part of the transmitted CODE from a 10 telephone matches the Address Byte that will be recognized in received CODE at the telephone for which the transmission is intended and unless the received CODE includes that Address Byte, the receiving telephone's computer will not allow its receiver to respond to the 15 DATA that accompanies the CODE.

This technique of setting the Address Byte provides versatility and assures that the Address Bytes set at  $M$  will be matched to those at  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ , even if the user does not set anything, because the bits set in 20 production will provide sufficient address. For example, for a given system of  $M$ ,  $E_1$ , and  $E_2$ , the 4 bits of the  $E_1$  and the  $E_2$  addresses set in production (at the factory) may be the bits: 1000 and 0100, respectively, and the manual set switches in the phones all begin at 25 0000. This system will perform in all respects as described herein, even if the user (customer) fails to set the switches, because the  $E_1$  address set at both  $E_1$  and  $M$  will be 1000000 and the  $E_2$  address set at both  $E_2$  and  $M$  will be 0100000. Clearly, however, it 30 is necessary where the user elects to set four bits of the addresses of  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  that he sets  $E_1$  the same at  $M$  and  $E_1$  and he sets  $E_2$  the same at  $M$  and  $E_2$ . It is also clear that the four bits manually set by the

user can be the same for  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  and the system will still perform in all respects as described herein (because the factory set bits will be different). Thus, the bits (four bits for  $E_1$  and four bits for  $E_2$ ) that 5 can be manually set at M could be accomplished by a single set of four switches that manually set the same four bits for  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ ; and, correspondingly the same four bits would be manually set in  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ . An advantage may lie in having the user manually set all 10 the system phones the same and refer to the setting as the user's address.

The first purpose of the Address Byte is to distinguish data transmitted from M, by RF carrier Fm as intended for  $E_1$  or  $E_2$  (or both). Another purpose is 15 to distinguish between system data on Fm and signals from other systems also on Fm. For example, if the probability of neighboring premises with such telephone extension systems both having the same Fm is 1:10; then the probability that both will have the same Fm and the 20 same factory set four bits for  $E_1$  or  $E_2$  is  $1:10 \times 2:2^4$  or 1:80; and the probability that both will have the same Fm, the same factory set four bits and the same manually set four bits for  $E_1$  or  $E_2$  is  $1:80 \times 2:2^4$  or 1:640.

15 The Code Byte part of CODE is generated by the computer in each phone depending on commands by each phone and commands received at that phone from the other phones and stored in the computer. As already described with reference to Fig. 2 the Checksum Byte merely 30 confirms that the Address and Code Bytes are received as sent. With this format in mind, M,  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  Code Bytes for various commands can be set up as shown in the table 2 below.

	Extension (E) Command/Message	1st 5 Bits Code Byte	Main (M) Command/Message
5	E Off Hk	11111	EnMic-On
	E On Hk	01111	EnMic-Off
	E On I	10111	EnEp-On
	E Off I	00111	EnEp-Off
	E D1 1	10000	MD1 1
10	E D1 2	01000	MD1 2
	E D1 3	11000	MD1 3
	E D1 4	00100	MD1 4
	E D1 5	10100	MD1 5
	E D1 6	01100	MD1 6
15	E D1 7	11100	MD1 7
	E D1 8	00010	MD1 8
	E D1 9	10010	MD1 9
	E D1 0	01010	MD1 0
	E D1 *	11010	MD1 *
20	E D1 #	00110	MD1 #
	E On H	11011	M On H
	E Off H	01011	M Off H
	E On P	10011	M On P
	E Off P	00011	M Off P
	E On S	11101	M On S

Examination of the routine tables for performing the  
25 various functions of the telephone system and shown in  
figs. 7 to 11, reveals that when a transmitter in any of  
the phones transmits CODE, the input to the transmitter  
(from the receivers in the main or from the microphone in  
an extension) are disabled and immediately following the  
30 transmission of CODE, if transmission continues, the  
input to the transmitter is enabled again. This is shown  
also by Fig. 2: during the 31.68 milliseconds that CODE  
is transmitted, VOICE is not transmitted. Clearly this  
31.68 milliseconds is not perceived as an interruption by  
35 the user, because the period is so brief.

#### M And E Power Line Couplers (Adapter Plugs)

The main telephone power line coupler circuit 28 is  
shown in some electrical detail in Fig. 12 and the  
extension power line coupling circuit 41 is shown in Fig.  
40 13. These figures shown circuit details of parts of the

coupling circuits in the phones and parts in the adapter plug. In both cases the power line 110 VAC stops at the adapter plug and so the cord (see fig. 4) from the phone to the adapter plug, which can be of considerable length 5 to allow freedom of movement of the telephone even while it is plugged in, carries all power and RF signals between the phone and the power line and all of this is at relatively low voltage and low power and so the phone itself is intrinsically a safer instrument than it would 10 be if the cord carried 110 VAC into the phone envelope.

Turning first to Fig. 12, for the main phone, the power line coupling circuit 28 of Fig. 5 is comprised of the RX-TX transformer 61M located inside the main phone envelope, the cord 6a from the main phone and the adapter 15 plug 6 that plugs into a conventional AC power line receptacle. The adapter plug 6 contains as little of the circuitry of the coupler as is necessary to insure that the 110 VAC is isolated from the telephone at the plug, so that the plug can be of small, convenient size.

20 The output of the main transmitter (MTX) power amplifier to 211, is fed to the RX-TX transformer 61M and the inputs to each of the channel 1 and channel 2 receivers (MRX-1 and MRX-2 in 26) is taken from this transformer. In particular, the main RX-TX transformer 25 includes a primary coil 62M and secondary 63M, the output of the transmitter being coupled to one side of this primary via the variable inductance 64M and capacitance 65M in series and the other end of primary goes to ground. A thermistor 66M is connected across this 30 primary to maintain a low primary impedance when the main transmitter (MTX) is "off". When the transmitter MTX is "on", the thermistor 66M heats up and its resistance increases. Conversely, when the transmitter MTX is "off"

the resistance of thermistor 66M decreases. The inputs to each of the receivers M26 and 2 are coupled in series, as shown, with the secondary 63m of the RX-TX transformer and this coupling is into the band pass filters of the 5 two receivers and may be by coupling coils in the filters (as shown). Thus, the secondary 63 is in series with the inputs of the two receivers across the terminals 2 and 4 of the main phone that connect to terminals 2 and 4 of the cord 6a. The other end of this cord, at the adapter 10 plug 6 that correspond to the terminals 2 and 4 is across the secondary 67M of transformer 68M in the plug and in the primary 69 of that transformer connects to the power line 10, one end of that being connected to the power line via capacitor 71M. By this structure the 15 transmitted RF from the main is launched into the power line and RF signals carried by the power line are coupled from the power line to the two receivers in the main phone.

The main phone power supply, regulator 32 provides 20 all operating power for the main phone except power derived from the telephone line for operating parts of the telephone line interface system 21 and for operating the main DTMF 37 as already described. The power supply 32 produces 12 volts and 5 volts DC for operating the 25 systems and subsystems in the main phone. Power to regulator 32 comes from transformer 72M in the adaptor plug. The primary side 73M of that transformer connects directly across the power line and the secondary has a center tap that is carried by cord 6a to terminal 3 in 30 the main phone that provides the main phone ground while the two ends of the secondary are connected together via diodes 75M, as shown, providing rectified positive voltage that is carried by cord 6a to terminal 1 in the

main phone and terminal 1 feeds the input to voltage regulator 32. Thus, regardless how the adaptor plug is plugged into the power line 10, terminal 1 gets full wave rectified positive voltage for the main phone regulator.

5 In order to insure that the DC level at the output of the transmitter and at the input of the regulator is the same and yet block RF flow between the two, RF choke 76M is provided which short circuits DC and blocks RF (shunts it to ground).

10 The power line coupling circuit 41 in the extension telephone (Fig. 6) is shown in detail in Fig. 13. This circuit also includes parts in the extension telephone envelope, parts in the adaptor plug 15 and the cord 15a from the phone to the plug. The principle parts of this 15 circuit are the RX-TX transformer 61E in the extension phone, the cord 15a and the two transformers 68E and 72E in the adaptor plug 15. The parts included herein may be the same and have the same functions as the equivalent parts described above with reference to the main power 20 line coupling circuit 28. Similar parts bear the same reference number followed by M or E. The only substantial difference between this coupling for the main and the extension phones, is that the extension has only a single receiver, ERXn, (a channel m receiver) instead 25 of two receivers. Clearly it is of some advantage that adaptor plug 6 and its cord 6a for the main phone be identical to adaptor plug 15 and its cord 15a for an extension phone, inasmuch as the cords and plugs are then interchangeable.

30

M and E Keypads

The main phone keypad (29 in Fig. 5) carry the operating buttons as shown. These include the conventional telephone Touch Tone 1 through 9, 0, \*, and

\* buttons, and in addition to these it carries the intercom (I), the hold (H), the privacy (P), and the Special function (S) buttons. A pictoral view of the keypad 29 is shown by Fig. 14A. Electrical diagrams 14B 5 and 14C and their associated tables 14D and 14E, respectively, show the system and telephone line operating functions of the main keypad. The telephone line operation described by Figs. 14C and 14E occur when the main telephone is operated outside of the system; 10 more particularly when it is operated without AC power and while plugged into the telephone line only. For this operation, all power to the phone is derived from the telephone power line and the operation is essentially conventional.

15 For conventional operation, only the conventional keys 1 to 9, 0, \*, and # are operational through pins 1 to 8 of the output terminal board 29a of the keypad. The interconnections between these pins, accomplished by pressing the various keys of the pad, are listed in the 20 table in Fig. 14E and shown diagrammatically by Fig. 14C. For example: when key 1 is pressed, row 1 and column 1 are connected and so pins 2 and 3 are connected; when key 2 is pressed, row 1 and column 2 are connected and so pins 2 and 5 are connected and so forth. Thus, upon 25 pressing each of the keys in the touch pad, different combinations of rows and columns are connected (short circuited). These rows and columns are denoted R1, R2, R3, R4 and C1, C2, and C3 herein. Clearly, when R3 connects to C2 the indication is only that key 8 is 30 pressed. This telephone line operation of the main keypad activates only the main DTMF 37 (see Fig. 5) and so the connection from the keypad to the main DTMF is of only R1, R2, R3, R4, C1, C2, C3 and Common.

Turning next to Figs. 14D and 14E there is shown the operation of the main keypad in the system mode when the main is plugged into the power line and the systems and subsystems of the main are energized by the main

5 regulator 32. In this case, all of the keys including the I, H, P, and S keys are active and the actuation of these keys is defined by R1, R2, R3, R4, C1, C2, C3, C4 and the Common. In this case pins 9 to 17 of the output pad 29a are also activated and so all 17 output pins of 10 the pad 29a are activated. For example, when key 1 is pressed, pins 2 and 3 are connected and also pins 16 and 13 are connected. When the I is pressed, none of the pins 1 to 8 are connected, but pins 9 to 16 are connected.

15 The connections between the main keypad 29 pins 1 to 17 and the main DTMF 37 and the connections to the system DTMF 36 and the main computer 31 are explained further hereinbelow with reference to Fig. 16, which describes also the operation of the address code set switches 38 in 20 the main phone.

The extension keypad 53 shown in Fig. 6, the electrical connections between the keys and the output pins of the keypad output terminal board 53a are illustrated by Figs. 15A, 15B, and 15C. For the extension there is only system operation, because the extension phone is not operable unless plugged into the power line and so all sixteen keys on the pad are operable at all times. Here, the output pins are denoted 1 to 9 and they connect to the rows R1 to R4 and columns C1 to C4 as listed in the table in Fig. 15C. Thus, when key 1 is pressed, pins 9, 3, and 8 are short circuited and when key S is pressed, pins 9, 4, and 7 are short circuited, and so forth.

Here again, as for the main telephone keypad, the keypad outputs are designated by their row and column symbol rather than the pin and the pin designation is described only with reference to these figures. The pin 5 designation is not carried through in the descriptions of operations of the keypad system elsewhere herein. The electrical connections between the extension keypad 53 and the extension computer 44 and extension address set switches 54 is described more fully hereinbelow with 10 reference to Fig. 17.

#### M and E Address Code Set Switches

At the main phone, four bits of the address bytes of  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are set by the switches 38 and at each of the Extension phones, the same four bits are set by the 15 address switches 54. The purpose of these settings is discussed above. Briefly, the purpose is to give the user the opportunity to change the addresses. The occasion might arise to change the addresses in the event of interference from other sources, such as a neighbors 20 power line telephone system of the same design as the users.

It is convenient at both the main and the extension to set the four bits of the addresses into the computer using the same lines that feed the key signals from the 25 keypad into the computer and this is the way it is done at both the main and extension.

Turning first to Fig. 16 there is shown the main keypad 29, main DTMF 37, system DTMF 36 and the extension address set switches 38. There are two banks of these 30 switches 38a and 38b, of which 38a is for setting the four bits of the address of  $E_1$  and 38b is for setting four bits of the address of  $E_2$ . All the switches, when closed, draw current through a diode, denoted generally

39, when transistor 40 is enabled by a signal in line 40a from the main computer. This enable signal occurs very briefly every time the main computer is reset and the main computer is reset every time there is an  
5 interruption of power from the power line to the telephone, followed by a continuation again of power. Hence, whatever the switches are set at, just before the telephone is plugged into the power line, that setting is stored in the computer. It is convenient to feed that  
10 setting into the computer via the lines denoted R1 to R4 and C1 to C4 from the keypad. In the main telephone, as shown in Fig. 16, all eight of the lines, R1 to R4 and C1 to C4 are used. Immediately following initiation of power from the power to the telephone, the transistor 40  
15 is no longer enabled and the switches play no part and have no effect on the signal flow between the main keypad 29, the system DTMF 36, the main DTMF 37 and the computer 25.

Operation of the address set switches 54 at the  
20 extension is much the same as the address set at the main, except that only a single bank of four switches is required. As shown in Fig. 17 the bank of four switches 54a feed through diodes 55 and transistor 56 when the transistor is enabled by a signal in line 10a from the computer. In this case it is convenient to feed the impulse from the switches to the computer 46 via lines R1 to R4 from the extension keypad 53.

#### Main and System DTMF

As shown in Fig 5, the main phone contains the  
30 system DTMF 36 that generates the conventional dual tones (Touch Tones) for dialing to the telephone line and the main (or subset) DTMF 37 for doing the same. It should be noted that while the system shown herein uses a DTMF,

those skilled in the art will recognize that any suitable telephone signalling device may be substituted herein and, specifically, that a rotary dial device or a combination of tone or dial telephone signalling apparatus may be used in the system.

The main DTMF feeds the telephone line interface 21 and is powered by the telephone line. It operates in conjunction with the main key pad 32, network 22 and hook switch 23, feeding tones to one of the primary windings 10 22C of the network as the tones are dialed (called for) at the key pad. Details of these circuits and the connections and couplings between them are shown by Fig. 18. That figure shows details of network 22, hybrid 27, main hook switch 23 and the C, SS and H relay switches. 15 The parts of network 22 and hybrid 27 are identified.

In Figure 18, the tip line 1a connects through subset (SS) relay 33 and switch 23-3 of the hook switch set 23 to the balanced diode bridge circuit 21a. The ring line 1b connects through SS relay 33 directly to the 20 diode bridge. Whichever line (the tip or ring) is at a positive voltage level with respect to the other is fed through the bridge to the Vbb terminal of the main DTMF, 37 and, correspondingly, whichever line is negative is fed through the bridge to the ground terminal, Vss of 25 DTMF 37. In this way DTMF 37 is powered from the telephone line.

When DTMF 37 receives control input signals in lines R1 to R4 and C1 to C3 from the main key pad 32, it produces the appropriate tone combinations in output line 30 37a to the secondary winding 22c, and across capacitor 22d of network 22.

These dial tones are coupled by transformer actions to the secondary 22e, which is across the tip and ring

lines via the SS relay 33, and so the dial tones from the main subset are transmitted to the telephone line. A center tap 22g on the primary 22e feeds the main handset 29 earphone 29 Ep. The main microphone 29 Mic also feeds 5 across the primary winding 22c when handset 29 is off hook, except when dial tones are produced in the output of DTMF 37. The dial tones squelch the Mic via line 22f by turning on a transistor in the Mic (not shown). Thus, the main earphone produces audible dial tones and the 10 main microphone is cut off when the operator dials.

#### Conclusions

The Generic embodiment of the present invention described herein with reference to Figures 1 - 3 has useful application to just about any power line carrier 15 communication system and particularly those systems that operate within a residential premises where interference is likely to be present. Furthermore, some of the techniques for implementing Intercom, HOLD, PRIVACY, etc. have useful application in a conventional telephone 20 extension system that does not use the power line to communicate between phones of the system, but uses a two wire telephone line between jacks in the premises. The specific embodiment of the present invention incorporates the coding and decoding techniques, because certain 25 Intercom's are implemented using code words. The specific embodiment of the present invention, a power line telephone extension system is described to show the full use of all advantages of the Generic Embodiment in the power line telephone extension system. In addition, the 30 specific embodiment teaches fully the implementation and use of additional or new features referred to as Hold, Intercom, Privacy, and Special. Those additional features are described along with the operation and

-59-

implementation to effect them to show fully the problems overcome and the advantages to be obtained by the practice of the present invention as set forth in the appended claims.

5 Equivalents

Clearly other specific embodiments and some variations of the Generic Embodiments will be apparent to those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the 10 impended claims.

CLAIMS

1. A telephone system for signalling between:
  - A. a telephone subscriber's telephone line of a conventional telephone communication system wherein a separate telephone line is provided from a central switching system at one location to each subscriber at the subscriber's premises and each subscriber's telephone line includes at least two wires, the ring wire and the tip wire and,
  - B. each of one or more extension telephones by RF carrier over a transmission line at the subscriber's premises;
  - C. including at the subscriber's premises: a subscriber main station (M) coupled to said telephone line and to said transmission line and up to "n" subscriber extension stations (En), each coupled to said transmission line, comprising,
    - 20 (a) at the M station:
      - (a1) coupling means coupled to the telephone line for detecting information signals on the telephone line, referred to herein as TL signals,
      - (a2) a master M transmitter for producing a main carrier frequency, Fm, and for modulating the main carrier frequency Fm with said information signals,
      - (a3) N receivers, one for each of the En stations, each receiver for receiving a different one of the En stations

transmitted RF carrier frequencies, (F<sub>1</sub>, F<sub>2</sub> -- F<sub>n</sub>) and including an F<sub>n</sub> demodulator for producing modulations of F<sub>n</sub> in the output thereof,

5 (a4) means for combining the outputs of said N receivers, producing a combined receiver output signal, referred to herein as MRXN,

10 (a5) means for combining the detected TL and MRXN signals and, coupling the combined signals to the input of the M transmitter, said transmitter input being referred to herein as MTX, and

15 (a6) means for coupling the M transmitter output to the transmission line, whereby the transmission line carries the modulated Fm to the En stations; and

(b) at each En station:

20 (b1) an En telephone,

(b2) a source of power for the En telephone, whereby the En telephone may produce information signals,

(b3) an En receiver for receiving modulated Fm including an Fm demodulator, and for producing the modulations of Fm in the output thereof, referred to herein as EnRX,

25 (b4) means for coupling modulated Fm from the transmission line to the input of the receiver and

30 (b5) means for coupling said EnRX to the En telephone,

whereby the En telephone receives the TL and MRXN signals,

(b6) whereby the En telephone may reproduce said information signals,

5 (b7) an En transmitter including means for producing the En telephone carrier frequency, Fn, and modulating means for modulating Fn by the En telephone information signals, producing modulated Fn and

10 (b8) means for coupling the modulated Fn to the transmission line,

whereby the transmission line carries the modulated Fn to the main station and telephone calls from the telephone line can be answered by any of the En telephones and any or all of the  $\text{--E}_n$  En telephones can conference on a telephone line call.

2. A system as in Claim 1 and further including means  
20 for addressing signals transmitted on the transmission line, comprising,

(a) means at each station for producing and adding to the signal to be transmitted a digital address word, consisting of several binary bits that signify the address of one of the En stations,

25 (b) whereby said digital address word and said signal is modulated by the RF carrier frequency and launched onto the transmission line at the station,

30 (c) means at the other En stations for storing a local digital address word, for detecting such

launched digital address word from the received RF carrier, for comparing such detected digital address word with the stored local digital address word and for controlling the detection of the received signal depending upon said comparison,

5

(d) whereby only signals having the stored local digital address word are detected at the En stations.

10 3. A system as in Claim 2 and further including,

(a) means at each En station for producing and adding a digital code word to the address word, consisting of several binary bits that signify information about said signal,

15 (b) whereby the address word and the code word and the signal to be transmitted is modulated by the RF carrier frequency and launched into the power line at the station,

(c) means at the En stations for storing a plurality of such digital code words and for comparing the detected code words with said stored code words producing a signal indicative of said code word comparison and

20 (d) utilization means responsive to said detected signal and said signal indicative of the code word comparison.

25

4. A System as in Claim 3 and further including,

(a) means at each En station for producing and adding a check word to the address word and code word and consisting of several binary bits

30

that signify a combination of the address and code words,

5 (b) whereby the address word, the code word and the check word is modulated by the RF carrier frequency and launched into the power line at the transmitting station,

10 (c) means at the other En stations for combining the detected address and code words and comparing the combination with the detected check word and for controlling the detection of the received signal depending upon said comparison,

15 (d) whereby only signals having address and code and check words for which the detected address and code words combine to compare in a predetermined manner with the detected check word are detected.

5. A System as in Claim 2 wherein the percent modulation of the binary bits is greater than the percent 20 modulation of the signal.

6. A System as in Claim 5 and further including,

25 (a) means for integrating received RF carrier over the time interval of each bit, and

(b) means responsive thereto for determining the value of the bit.

7. A System as in Claim 1 wherein the transmission line is a subscriber's power line.

8. A System as in Claim 4 wherein the address word, code word and check word precedes the signal in time.
9. A System as in Claim 1 in which the information signals comprise audio, or dial, or hold signals.
10. A System as in Claim 1 in which the information signals include HOLD signals and means are provided for detecting said HOLD signal and connecting a HOLD impedance across the telephone line to HOLD a telephone call.
11. A System as in Claim 10 wherein,
  - (a) the HOLD signal produced at an En station is a digital code word called the hold code word consisting of several binary bits that signify the hold command by the En station,
  - (b) whereby the hold code word is modulated by the En station carrier frequency (Fn) and launched onto the power line at the station, and
  - (c) means are provided at the M station for storing the hold code, for comparing the detected hold code word with the stored hold code and for controlling the means that connects the hold impedance across the telephone line, depending upon said comparison,
  - (d) whereby only hold code words that satisfy said comparison are effective to accomplish telephone line hold.
12. A System for signalling between stations coupled by a line transmission comprising,

(a) a main station, denoted M, and one or more (up to N) satellite stations denoted E1, E2--En--EN.

(b) at the M station:

5 (b1) an M transmitter that transmits information signals as modulations of the carrier frequency Fm,

10 (b2) N receivers, one for each of the satellite stations, each for receiving a corresponding one of the satellite carrier frequencies F1, F2,--Fn--FN, each receiver detecting the corresponding satellite station information signal modulations of the station carrier frequency Fn and producing an output, representative thereof,

15 (b3) means for combining the output of said M receivers producing a combined receiver output signal, referred to herein as MRXN,

20 (b4) means for coupling said MRXN to the input of the M transmitter, and

(b5) means for coupling the inputs to the said N receivers and the output of the M transmitter to the transmission line;

25 (b6) whereby all information signals from the N receivers are transmitted over the transmission line on the carrier Fm; and

(c) at each satellite station, En:

30 (c1) an-En receiver for receiving Fm,

(c2) an En transmitter for transmitting information signals as modulations of the station carrier frequency Fn,

(c3) a source of En information signals,

(c4) an En received signal utilization device,  
(c5) means for coupling the En source output to  
the En transmitter input,  
5 (c6) means for coupling the En receiver output  
to the En utilization device, and  
(c7) means for coupling the input of the En  
receiver and the output of the En  
transmitter to the transmission line;  
10 (d) whereby two or more of said satellite stations  
can communicate with each other simultaneously,  
full duplex.

13. A System as in Claim 12 wherein the means at the M  
station for coupling the inputs of the M receivers  
and the output of the M transmitter to the  
15 transmission line includes:  
(a) an M station input-output (RX-TX) transformer  
having primary and secondary sides,  
(b) an M station adapter plug (AP) transformer  
having primary and secondary sides,  
20 (c) said M station RX-TX and AP transformers are  
coupled as follows:  
(c1) the inputs of each of the M receivers  
couple to the secondary of the M RX-TX  
transformer,  
25 (c2) the output of the M transmitter couples to  
primary of the M RX-TX transformer,  
(c3) one side of the M RX-TX transformer  
couples to one side of the M AP  
transformer and  
30 (c4) the other side of the M AP transformer  
connects to the transmission line.

14. A System as in Claim 13 wherein the said other side of the M AP transformer is an inductance-capacitance circuit.
15. A System as in Claim 13 wherein,
  - 5 (a) the M transmitter output couples to the other side of the M RX-TX transformer and
  - (b) the inputs to each of the M receivers couple to the one side of the M RX-TX transformer.
16. A System as in Claim 15 wherein, the inputs to each 10 of the M receivers are in electrical series and said series is in electrical series with the said one side of the M RX-TX transformer.
17. A System as in Claim 12 wherein all means at the M 15 station are contained in at least two separate envelopes including a first and a second M envelope, of which the first contains the M transmitter, the M receiver and the M TX-TX transformer and the second contains the M AP transformer and the envelopes are connected by an electrical cable.
- 20 18. A System as in Claim 17 wherein the transmission line is a power line and the second envelope has electrical contacts projecting therefrom for connection to the power line at a conventional power line receptacle and is of sufficiently small size and 25 weight that it is held at the receptacle by the projecting contacts.
19. A System as in Claim 18 and further including a source of power at the M station including:

- (a) an M power transformer (PT) having primary and secondary sides,
- (b) an M voltage regulator,
- (c) one side of the M PT connects to the power line and the other side connects to the M voltage regulator, and
- (d) the M voltage regulator is contained in the first envelope and the M PT is contained in the second envelope.

10 20. A System as in Claim 12 wherein the transmission line is a power line and the means at each satellite station En for coupling the input of the En receiver and the output of the En transmitter to the power line includes:

- (a) an En station input-output (RX-TX) transformer having primary and secondary sides,
- (b) an En station adaptor plug (AP) having primary and secondary sides,
- (c) said En station RX-TX and AP transformers are coupled as follows:
  - (c1) the input to the En receiver couples to the En RX-TX transformer,
  - (c2) the output of the En transmitter couples to the En RX-TX transformer,
  - (c3) one side of the En RX-TX transformer couples to one side of the En AP transformer, and
  - (c4) the other side of the En AP transformer connects to the power line..

30 21. A System as in Claim 20 wherein,

- (a) the En transmitter output couples to the other

side of the En RX-TX transformer, and

(b) the input to the En receiver couples to one side of the RX-TX transformer.

22. An RF carrier telephone extension system for signaling between (1) a telephone subscriber's telephone line of a conventional telephone communication system wherein a separate telephone line is provided from a central switching system at one location to each subscriber at the subscriber's location and each subscriber's telephone line includes at least two wires, the ring line and the tip line and, (2) two or more of the subscriber's extension telephones by RF carrier over the transmission lines at the subscriber's location, including at the subscriber's location or premises: a subscriber main (M) station near said subscriber telephone line and having access to said transmission line and two or more (up to N) subscriber extension stations (E1, E2 -- En -- EN), each having access to said transmission line, comprising,

(a) at the M station:

(a1) means connected to the telephone line for detecting audio frequency signals on the telephone line, referred to herein as TL signals,

(a2) an M transmitter including means for producing a main carrier frequency,  $F_m$ , and modulating means for modulating  $F_m$ ,

(a3) N receivers, one for each of the En stations, each receiver for receiving a different one of the En stations transmitted RF carrier frequencies,  $F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n, \dots, F_N$ ,

and including an  $F_n$  demodulator, and producing the modulations of  $F_n$  in the output thereof,

5 (a4) means for combining the outputs of said  $N$  receivers producing a combined receiver output signal referred to herein as MRXN,

(a5) means for combining the TL and MRXN signals and coupling the combined signals to the input of the transmitter, said transmitter

10 input being referred to herein as MTX, and

(a6) means for coupling the transmitter output to the transmission line,

whereby the transmission line carries the modulated  $F_m$  to the  $E_n$  stations; and

15 b) at each  $E$  station, denoted generally as  $E_n$ :

(b1) an  $E_n$  telephone, .

(b2) a source of power for the  $E_n$  telephone,

(b3) whereby the  $E_n$  telephone produces audio and dial signals when it is used by the subscriber,

20 (b4) an  $E_n$  receiver for the modulated  $F_m$ , including an  $F_m$  demodulator and producing the modulations of  $F_m$  in the output thereof, referred to herein as  $E_nRX$

(b5) means for coupling modulated  $F_m$  from the transmission line to the input of the receiver, and

(b6) means for coupling said  $E_nRX$  to the  $E_n$  telephone,

30 whereby the  $E_n$  telephone receives the TL and MRXN signals,

(b7) an  $E_n$  transmitter including means for producing the  $E_n$  telephone carrier frequency,

Fn, and modulating means for modulating Fn by the En telephone audio signals and signals representative of the En dial signals, producing modulated Fn and

5 (b8) means for coupling the modulated Fn to the power line,

whereby the power line carries the modulated Fn to the main station and telephone calls from the telephone line can be answered by any of the  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$  -- En -- EN

10 telephones and any or all of the  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$  --  $E_n$  -- EN telephones can conference on a telephone line call; and

further, at the M station:

15 (a7) means for producing an intercom mode command signal, herein referred to as the I signal, and

20 (a8) said means, (a5), for combining the MRXN and TL signals and coupling the combination to the input MTX of the transmitter is a multi-port hybrid network, referred to herein as the hybrid, and is controlled by said I signal.

25 (a9) whereby, said MRXN and TL signals are combined by said hybrid and the combination is coupled to the input MTX of the transmitter and MRXN is coupled to the telephone line or the MRXN and TL signals are not so combined and MRXN is not coupled to the telephone line, depending upon the occurrence of said I signal.

23. A system as in Claim 22 wherein, at the M station:

30 (a10) the hybrid, (a8), includes three ports, an MRXN port coupled to the output of the combining means, (a4), an MTX port coupled to the input of the

transmitter and a TL port coupled to the telephone line and

(all) a switch, herein called the C switch, in the coupling between the TL port and the telephone line controlled by said I signal.

5

24. A system as in Claim 22 wherein, at the M station: (a12), the hybrid, (a8), is a three port directional coupler network, having an MRXN port coupled to the output of the combining means, (a4), an MTX port coupled to the input of the transmitter and a TL port coupled to the telephone line through a switch, herein call the C switch, that is controlled by the I signal.

10

25. A system as in Claim 24 wherein, at the M station: (a13) the signal flow between ports of the three port directional coupler circuit is as follows: from the MRXN port to the MTX port, from the MRXN port to the TL port and from the TL port to the MTX port; and following an I signal the TL port is 20 closed in both directions.

20

26. A system as in Claim 22 wherein; at each En station: (b9) means are provided for initiating an En telephone intercom mode command signal, referred to herein as the EnI signal, and (b10) said means for modulating Fn, (b7), modulates Fn by the EnI signal; and further at the M station:

25

(a14) each receiver, (a3), includes means for detecting modulations of Fn by said EnI signal and

30

(a15) means are provided responsive to said detected EnI signal that produces the said I signal for controlling the multi-port hybrid, (a8), whereby an EnI signal initiated at the En telephone causes the En telephone to be uncoupled from the telephone line so that the En telephone can communicate with one or more of the other stations without the communication going to the telephone line.

10 27. A system as in Claim 26 wherein there is further provided at the M station:

(a16) means for generating an En telephone intercom buzz signal, referred to herein as EnBUZ signal

15 (a17) said means for modulating Fm, (a2), modulates Fm by the EnBUZ signal, and at each En station:

(b11) the receiver, (b4), includes means for detecting modulations of Fm by said EnBUZ signal and

20 (b12) means for initiating energization of a suitable alerting device which alerts the operator of the En telephone to an intercom call.

25 28. A system as in Claim 27 wherein there is further provided at each En station:

(b13) means for generating an M station intercom signal, referred to herein as the MBUZ signal,

30 (b14) said means for modulating Fn, (b11), modulates Fn by the MBUZ signal, and

at the M station:

5 (a24) said means for detecting modulations of Fn, (a14), detects said MBUZ signal and initiates energization of an alerting device which alerts the operator of the M station to an intercom call.

28. A system as in Claim 26 wherein there is further provided at the M station:

10 (a19) an M telephone

15 (a20) a telephone line network, herein called the TL network, for coupling the M telephone to the telephone line,

20 (a21) means for initiating an M telephone intercom mode command signal, referred to herein as the MI signal, (a22) the TL network being connected to the telephone line by a switch, referred to herein as the SS switch, controlled by the said MI signal.

30. A system as in Claim 29 wherein, there is further provided at the M station:

25 (a23) a source of voltage

(a24) means response to the MI and EnI signals for controlling the C and SS switches so that the following occurs:

when MI occurs, switch SS connects the TL network to the telephone line;  
when EnI occurs, switch C connects the TL port of the hybrid to the telephone line;  
and

when MI and EnI occur, switches SS and C connect the hybrid and TL network in series across the voltage source.

31. A System as in Claim 30 and further including means  
5 for identifying signals transmitted over the power  
line between the M, E1, E2, -- En, -- EN stations  
comprising,  
10 (a) means at each station for producing and  
adding to the signal to be transmitted a  
digital address word, the address word to  
precede the signal in time and to consist of  
several binary bits that signify the address of  
one of the stations,  
15 (b) whereby the digital address word followed  
by said signal is modulated by the RF station  
carrier frequency and launched onto the power  
line at the station,  
20 (c) means at the other stations for storing the  
same digital address word, for detecting such  
digital address words from the received RF  
carrier, for comparing such detected digital  
address words with the stored digital address  
word and for controlling the detection of the  
received signal depending upon said comparison,  
25 (d) whereby signals preceded by the stored  
digital address word are detected at the  
stations.

32. In a System for communicating between stations on a  
transmission line in a location in which information  
30 signals at one station are transmitted (TX) by radio  
frequency (RF) carrier over the power line and the

transmitted RF carrier frequency band is received (RX) and the signals detected at another station, means for reducing the effects of interfering RF carrier frequencies in the same band and from other sources that have access to the same transmission line comprising,

5 (a) means at the TX station for controlling the power of the RF carrier over the power line,

10 (b) means at the RX station for controlling the threshold of power of the received RF carrier for which the carried signals are detected,

15 (c) whereby interfering RF carrier frequencies at a power level below said threshold are not subject to detection at the RX station.

15 33. A System as in Claim 32 and further including,

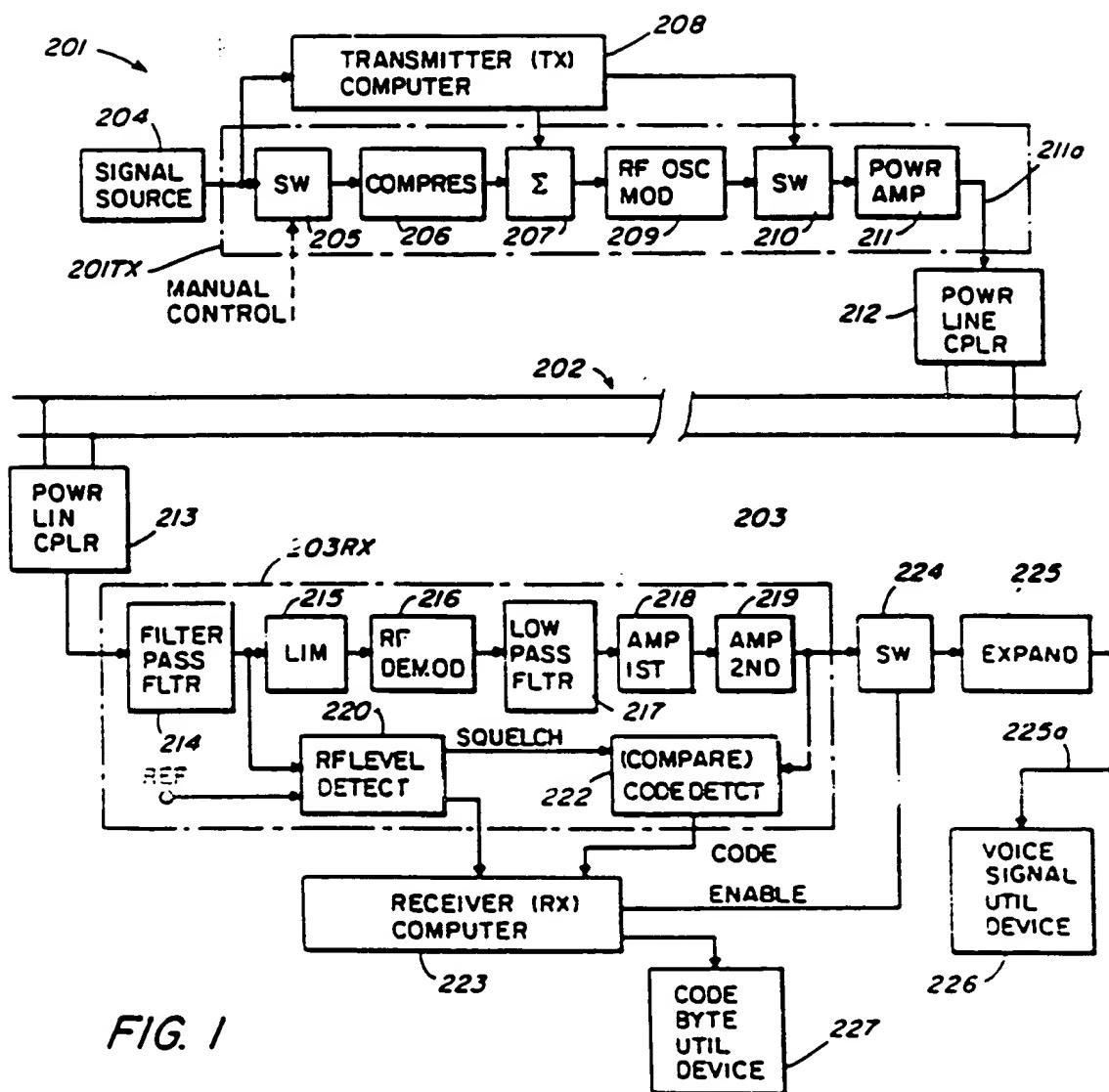
20 (a) means at the TX station for producing and adding to the signal to be transmitted a digital address word, the address word to precede the signal in time and consisting of several binary bits that signify the address of one of the stations,

25 (b) whereby the digital address word followed by the signal modulates the RF carrier frequency and is launched onto the power line at the TX station.

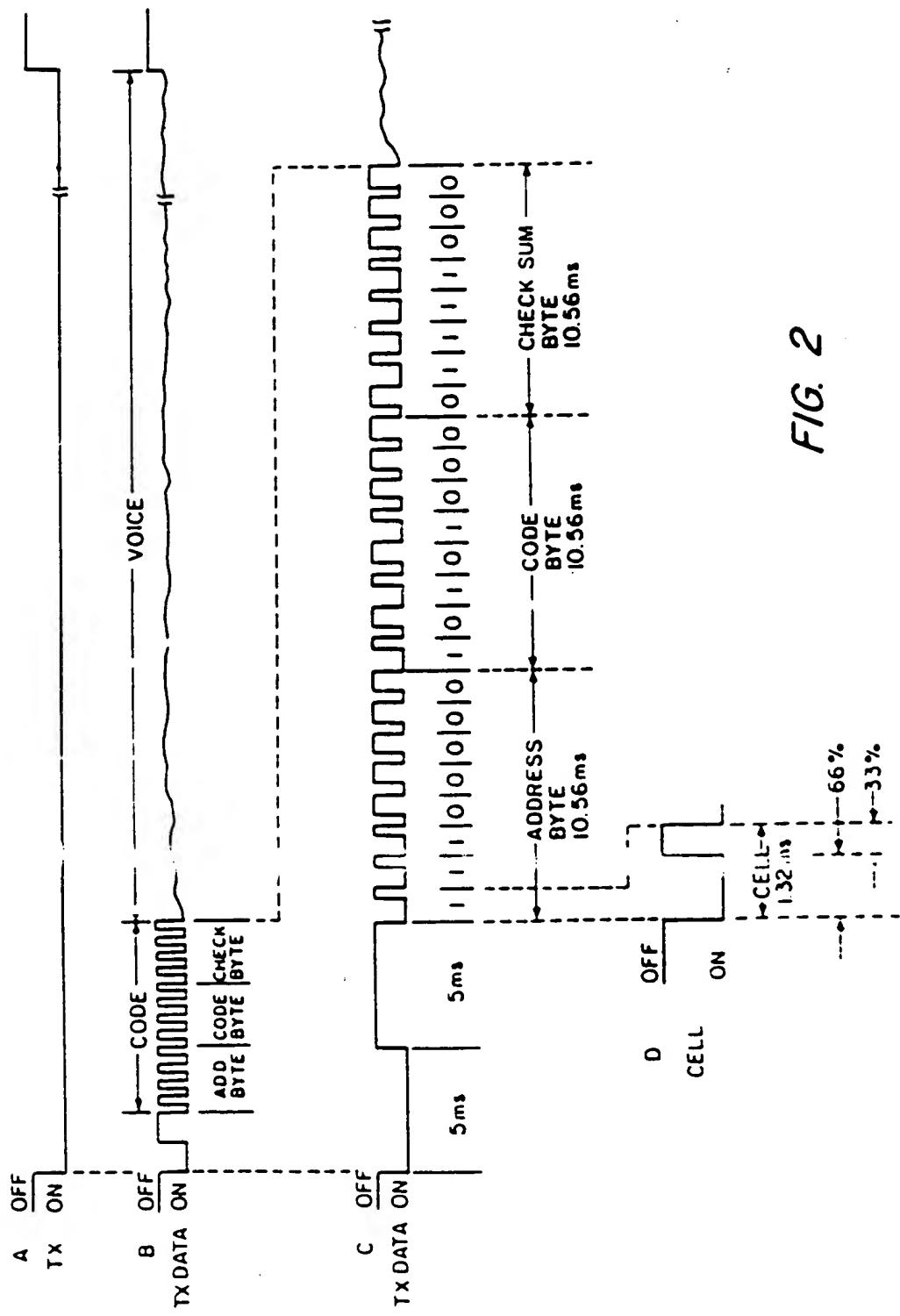
30 (c) means at the RX station for storing the same digital address word, for detecting such digital address words from the received RF carrier, for comparing such detected digital address words with the stored digital address word and for controlling the detection of the received signal depending upon said comparison,

(d) whereby only signals preceded by the stored digital address word are detected at the RX station.

34. The System of Claim 13 wherein a thermistor is  
5 disposed in parallel across the primary of the M  
RX-TX transformer to maintain a low impedance at the primary when the main transmitter is "OFF".



2 / 16



3 / 13

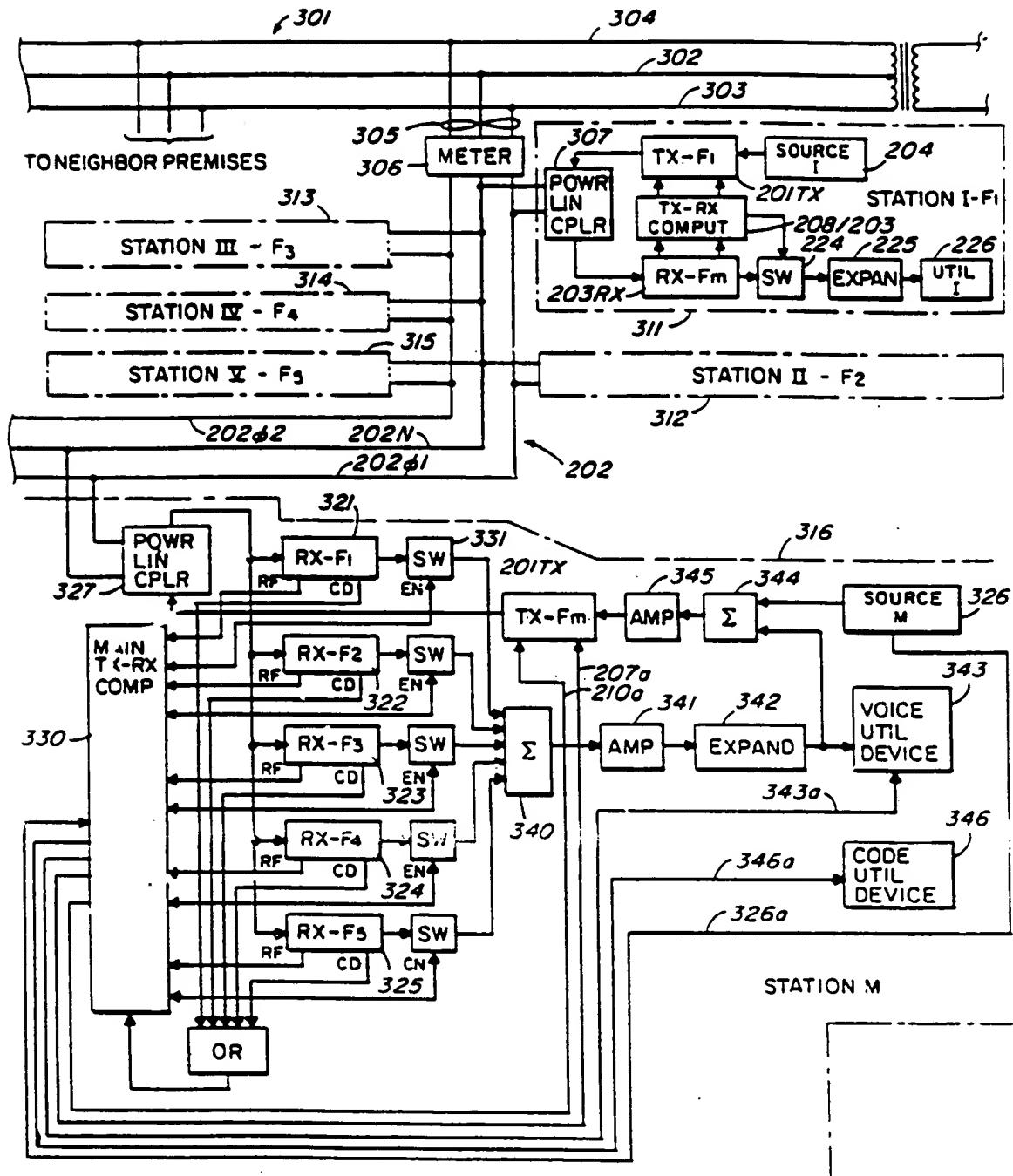


FIG. 3

BUR  
G

4 / 16

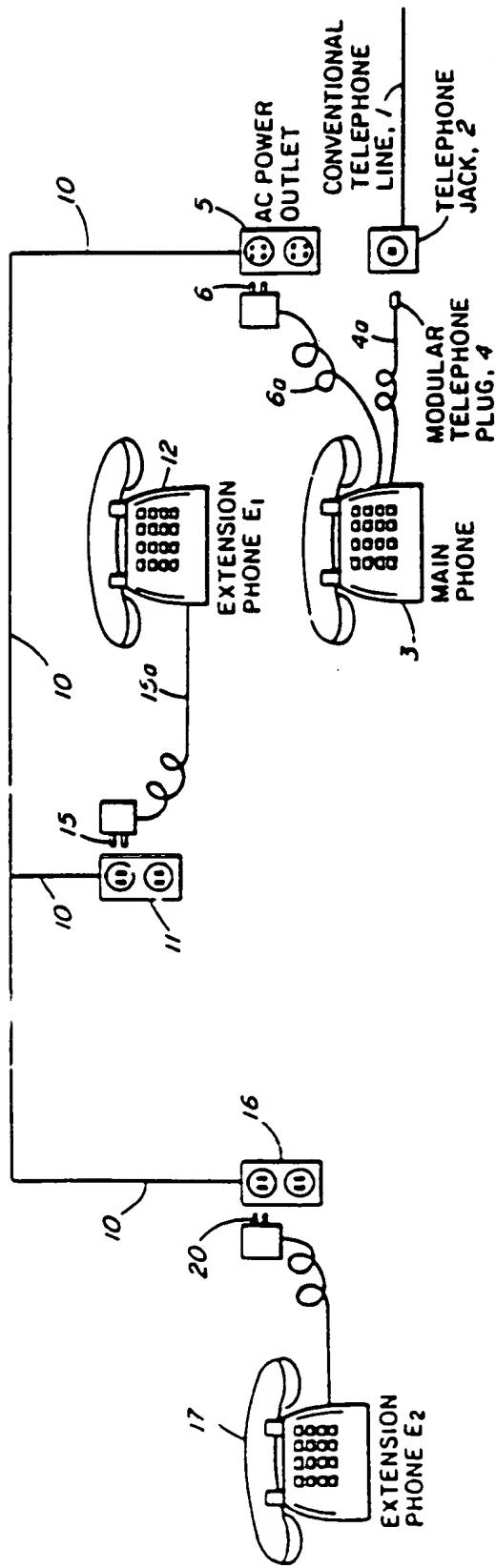


FIG. 4

BUREAU

5 / 16

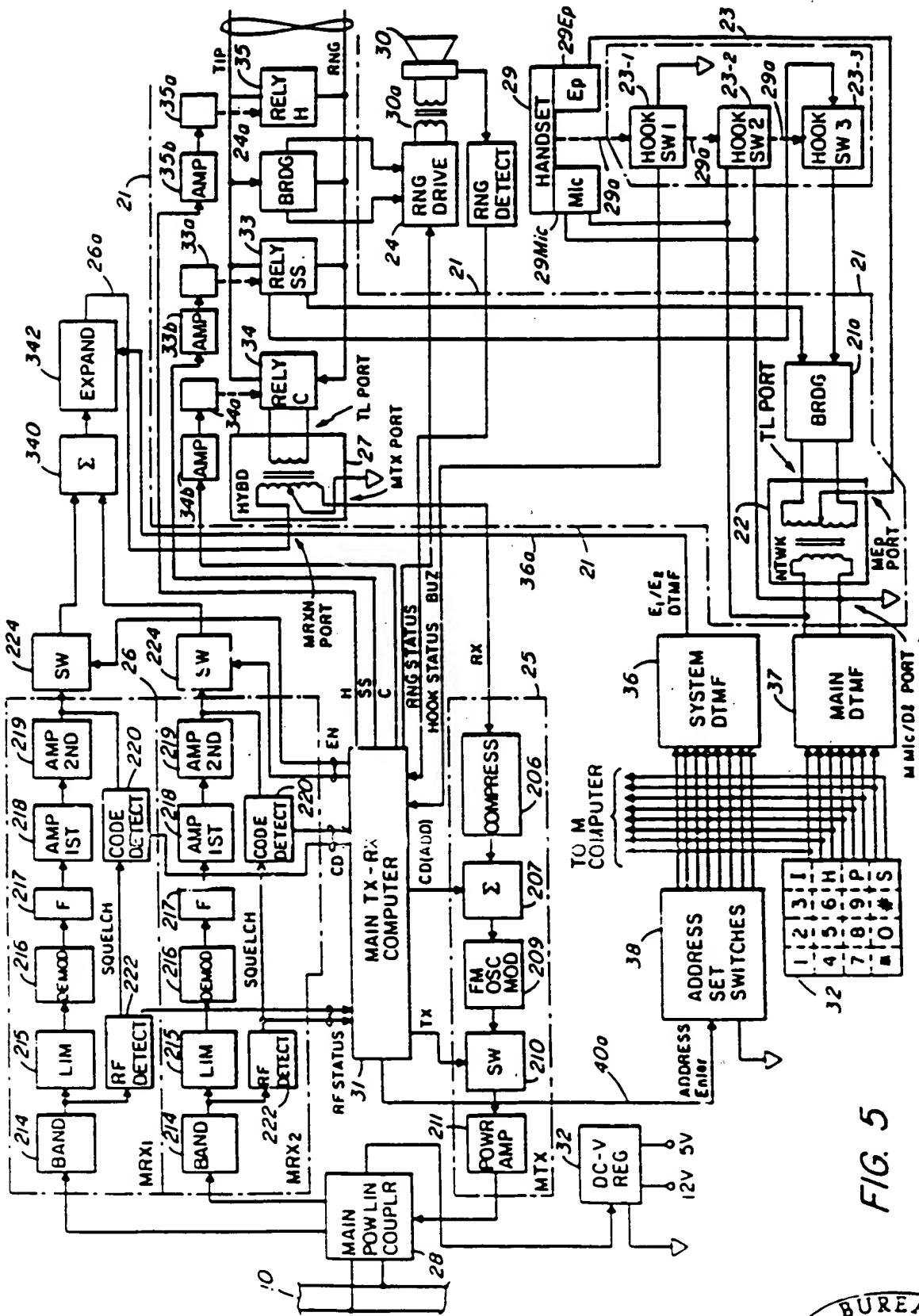


FIG. 5

BUREAU  
OMPI

6 / 16

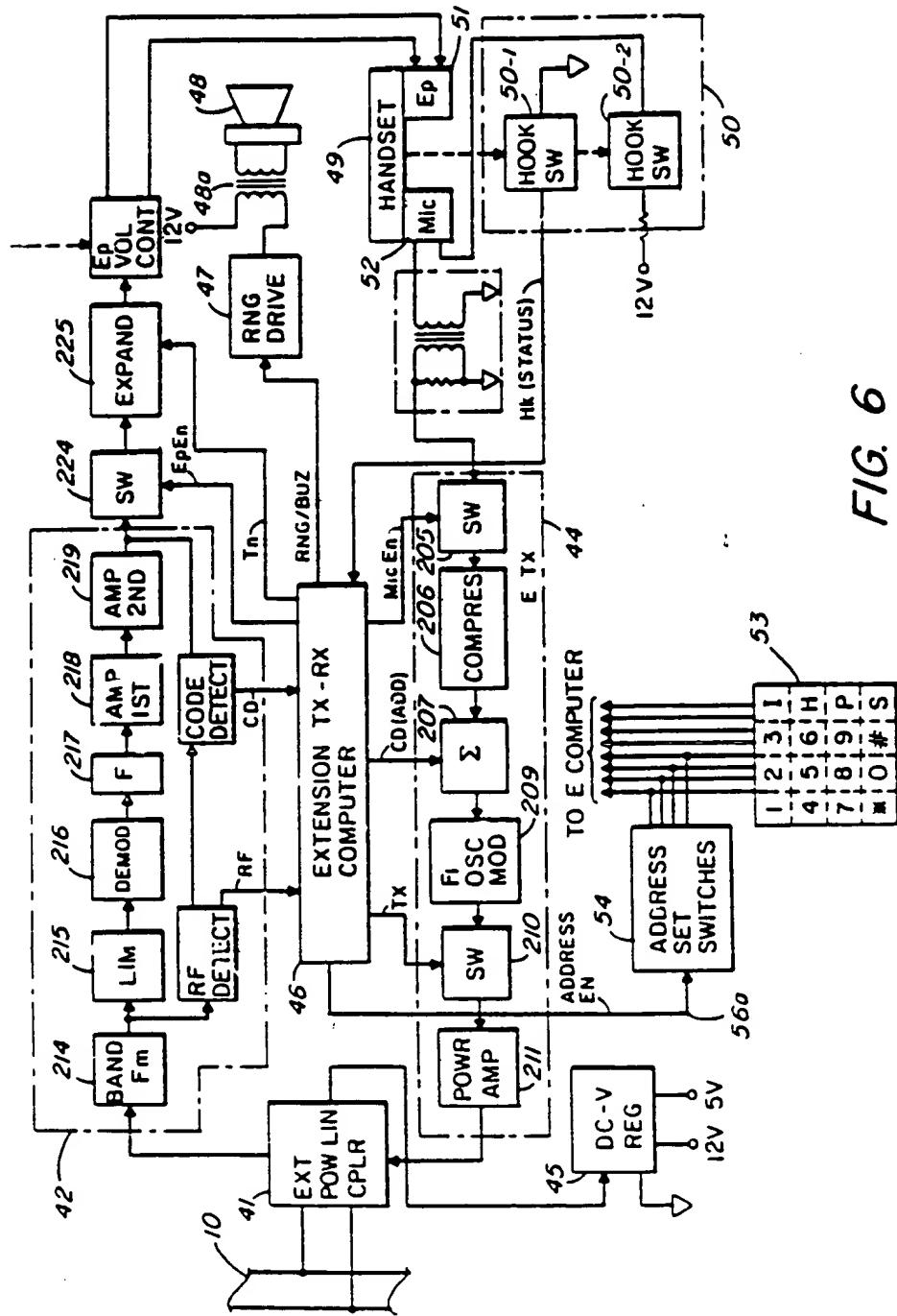
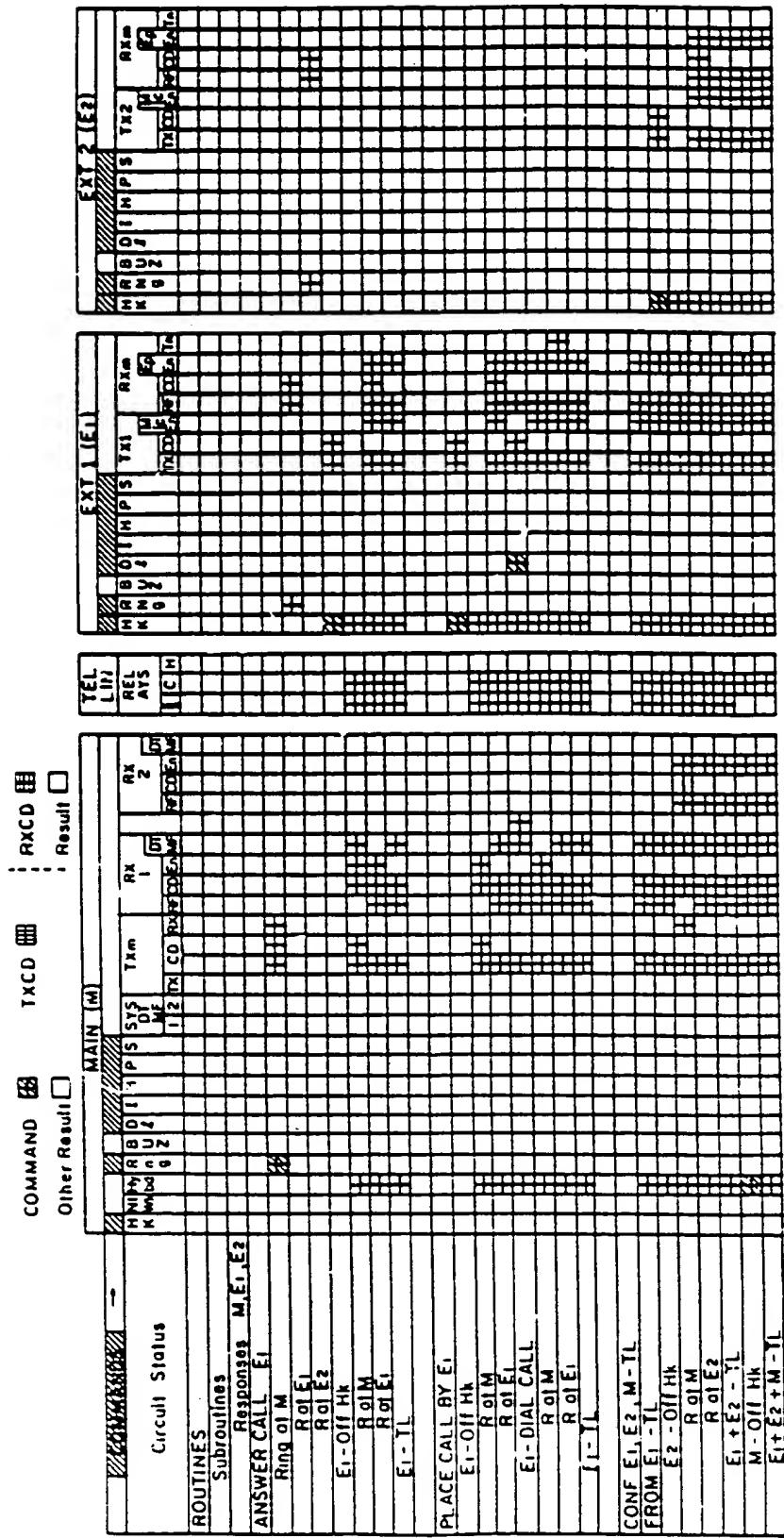


FIG. 6



9 / : 6

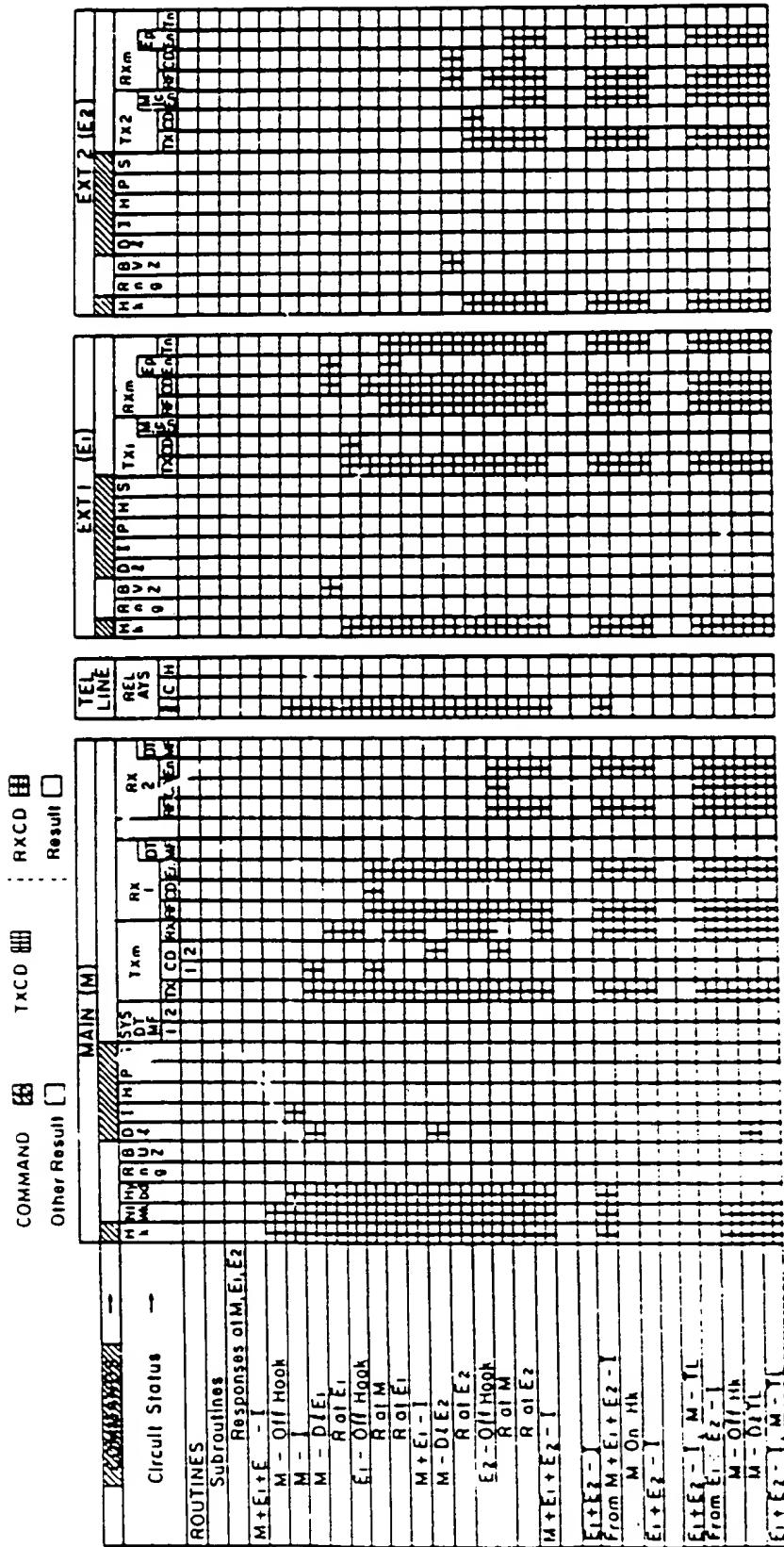


FIG. 8

BUREAU  
CMPI

FIG. 9

BUREAU  
OMPI

COMMAND	TxCD	RxCD	Disabled <input type="checkbox"/>	Result <input type="checkbox"/>	MAIN (M)		EXT 1 (E1)		EXT 2 (E2)	
					ROUTINES	ROUTINES	ROUTINES	ROUTINES	ROUTINES	ROUTINES
COMMANDS -					M + E1 - P, FROM					
Circuit Status -					E1 + E2 - I, TL - H					
					M Off HK					
					M - P					
					M & TL - P, E1 + E2 - I					
					M + E1 - P, TL - P, FROM					
					M + E1 - I, TL - H					
					M - I					
					R q1 E1					
					E1 - I					
					R q1 M					
					M + E1 - TL					
					M - P					
					R q1 E2					
					M + E1 & TL - P					
					M + E1 + E - TL, FROM					
					M + E1 & TL - P					
					E2 - Off HK					
					R q1 M					
					E2 - DI ON					
					R q1 M					
					E2 - DI OFF					
					R q1 M					
					E2 - P					
					R q1 M					
					R q1 E2					
					E1 - P					
					R q1 M					
					M + E1 - TL					

FIG. 10

BUREAU  
OMPI

11 / 16

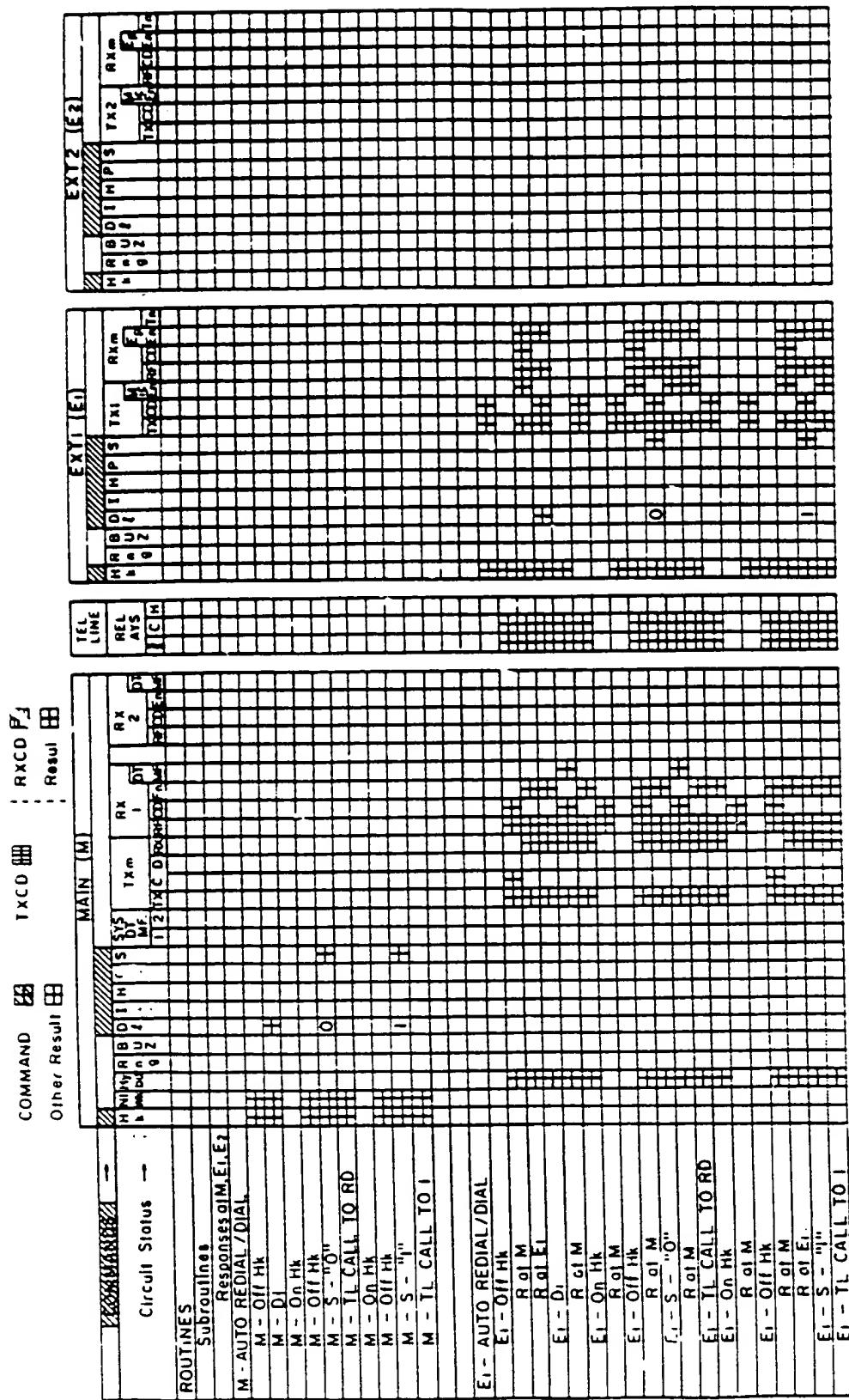
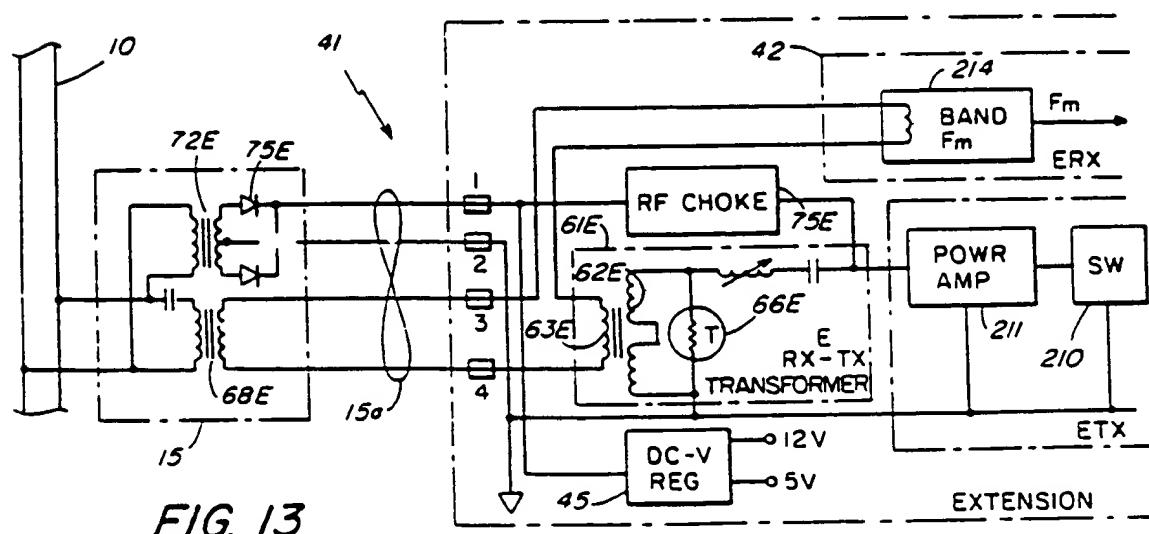
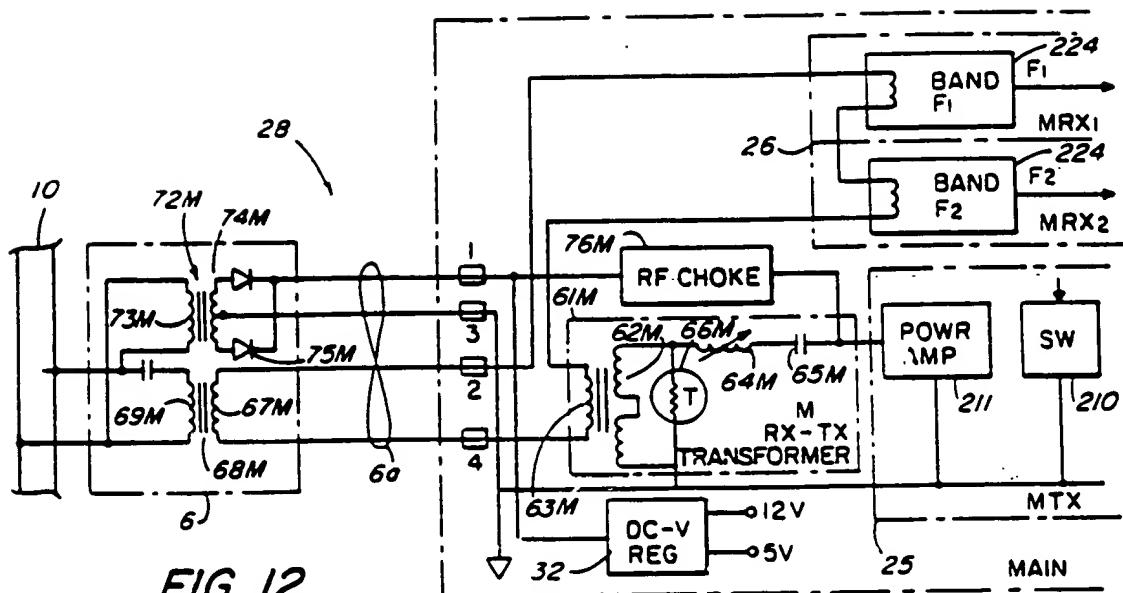


FIG. 11

BUREAU  
—  
OM  
WIR

WD 84/01481

12 / 16



SUBSTITUTE SHEET

BUREAU  
OMPI

3 / 16

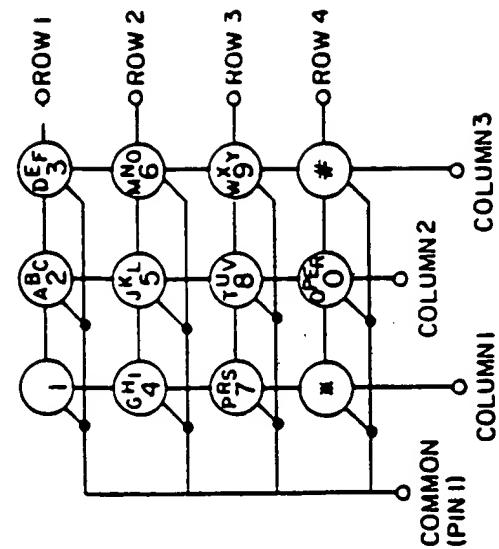


FIG. 14C

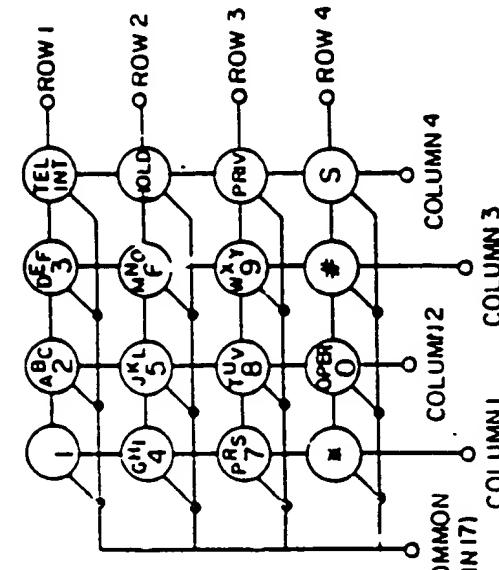


FIG. 14B

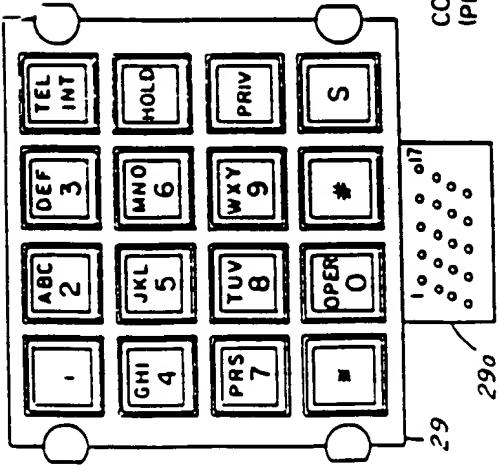


FIG. 14A

TELEPHONE INPUT OUT PUT ARRANGEMENT	
OUT PUT PIN NO.	SYMBOL
PIN 1	COMMON
PIN 2	ROW 1
PIN 3	COLUMN 1
PIN 4	ROW 2
PIN 5	COLUMN 2
PIN 6	ROW 3
PIN 7	COLUMN 3
PIN 8	ROW 4

FIG. 14C

DIGITAL INPUT OUT PUT ARRANGEMENT	
OUT PUT PIN NO.	SYMBOL
PIN 9	COLUMN 4
PIN 10	COLUMN 3
PIN 11	COLUMN 2
PIN 12	ROW 4
PIN 13	COLUMN 1
PIN 14	ROW 3
PIN 15	ROW 2
PIN 16	ROW 1
PIN 17	COMMON

FIG. 14D

14 / 15

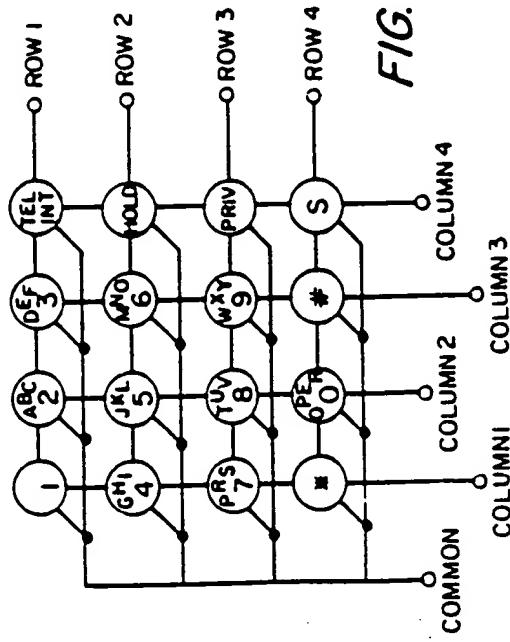


FIG. 15B

DIGITAL INPUT OUT PUT ARRANGEMENT	
OUT PUT PIN NO.	SYMBOL
1	ROW 2
2	ROW 3
3	COLUMN 1
4	ROW 4
5	COLUMN 2
6	COLUMN 3
7	COLUMN 4
8	ROW 1
9	COMMON

FIG. 15C

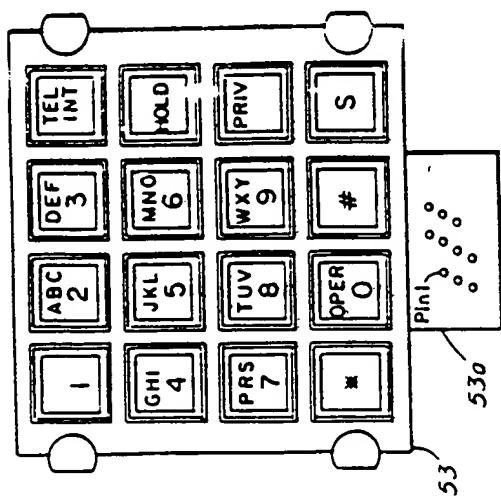


FIG. 15A

SUBSTITUTE SHEET

BUREAU  
OMPI

15 / 16

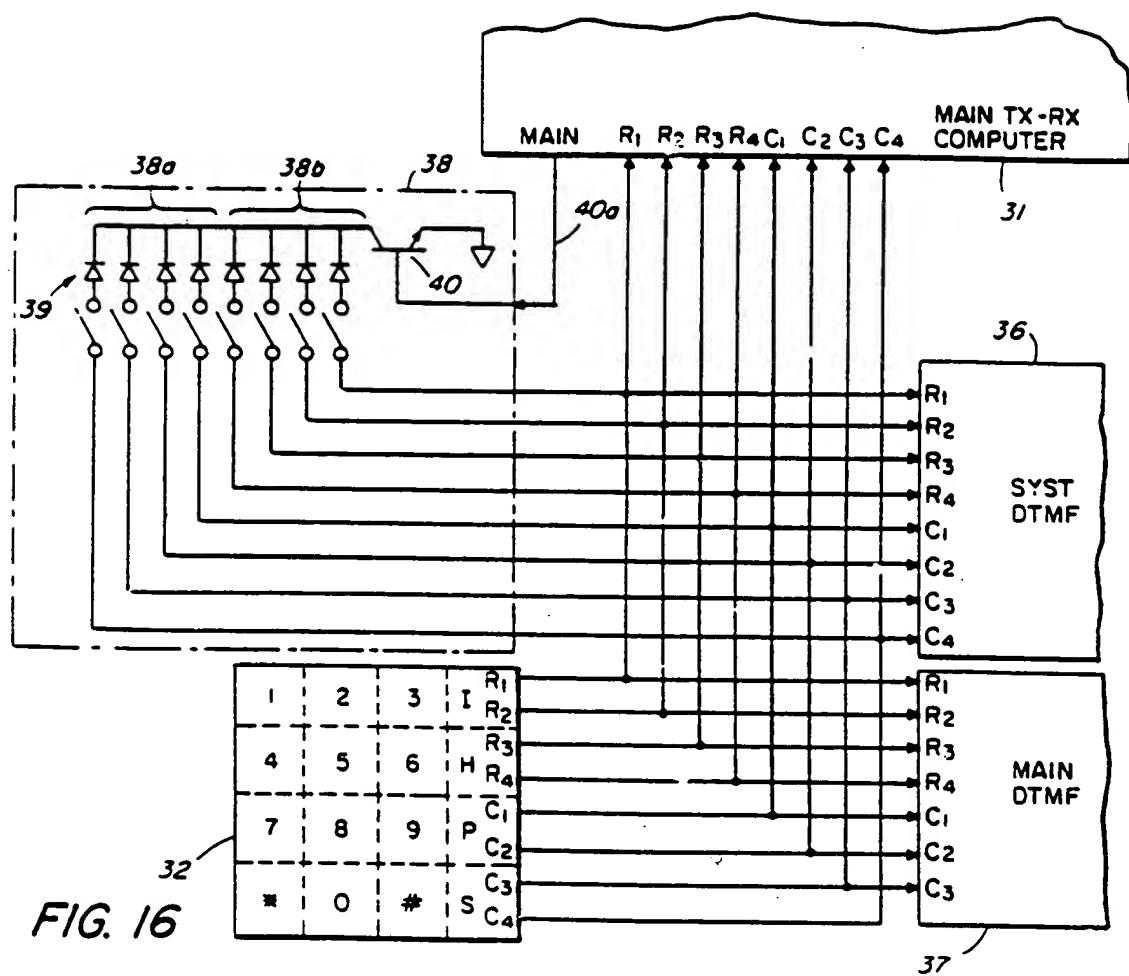


FIG. 16

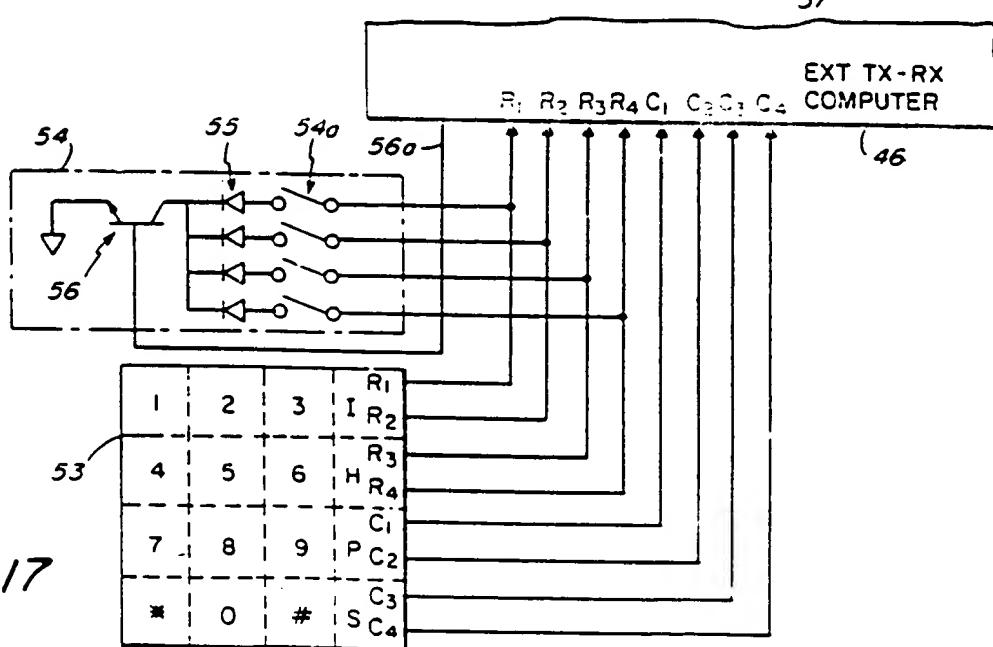


FIG. 17

16 / 16

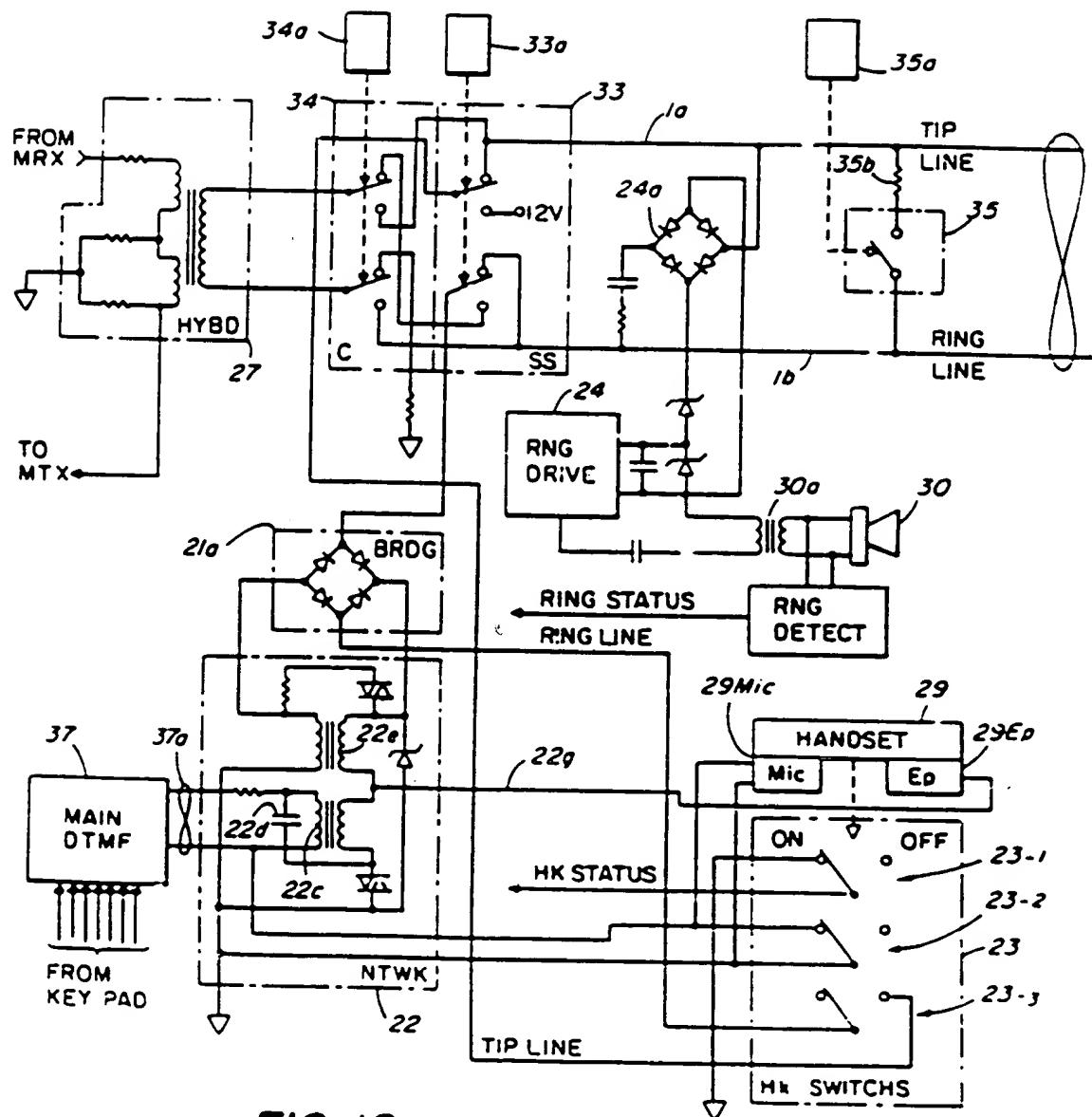


FIG. 18

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/US 83/01512

## I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) \*

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC

IPC<sup>3</sup>: H 04 M 1/72; H 04 B 3/54

## II. FIELDS SEARCHED

Classification System	Minimum Documentation Searched *	
	Classification Symbols	
IPC <sup>3</sup>	H 04 M; H 04 B	
Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in the File's Searched *		

## III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT \*\*

Category *	Citation of Document, <sup>16</sup> with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages <sup>17</sup>	Relevant to Claim No. <sup>18</sup>
X	AU, B, 509005 (BROWN) 17 April 1980 see page 3, line 22 - page 24, line 14; figure 3 --	1-34
A	FR, A, 2156681 (DOLE) 1 June 1973 see page 5, line 18 - page 15, line 23; figures -----	1-34

\* Special categories of cited documents: 16

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

## IV. CERTIFICATION

Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search \*

13th March 1984

Date of Mailing of this International Search Report \*

28 MAR 1984

International Searching Authority \*

EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE

Signature of Authorized Officer

G.L.M. Kruydenberg

ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT ON

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/US 83/01518 (SA 6055)

This Annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on 27/03/84

The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
AU-B- 509005	17/04/80	AU-A- 1248876	06/10/77
FR-A- 2156681	01/06/73	NL-A- 7213309	03/04/73
		DE-A- 2246634	12/04/73
		BE-A- 789519	29/03/73
		GB-A- 1393424	07/05/75
		AU-A- 47C7472	14/02/74
		AU-B- 445047	14/02/74